

March 3, 2006

# CMIC CONNECTION

A Monthly News Service from the Division of Communications for Norfolk Civic Organizations

## NORFOLK LAUNCHES COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM

The first 23 Norfolk residents completed an intensive, two-day course to become the City's first members of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. The class included representation from the neighborhoods of Northside, Colonial Place, Norview, Lambert's Point, Coleman Place, Bayview, Norva Homes, Berkley, Titustown Ballentine, Corondo/Inglenook, Park Place, Hollywood/Maple, and Roosevelt Gardens.

The CERT program teaches citizens basic skills to help themselves, their families, and immediate neighbors or co-workers in the aftermath of a disaster. Participants learn skills in:

- Emergency Preparedness
- Disaster Psychology
- Fire Safety (Extinguisher use)
- CERT Organization
- Search & Rescue
- First Aid

This CERT course will be offered again in April, June, August, October, December, and again in February 2007. Our goal is to have 100 Norfolk residents certified as CERT trained by Hurricane season in June and 200 certified by year's end. Using their training, CERT members can take a more active role in preparing Norfolk for disasters and – in the event of a disaster or act of terrorism -- can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace while waiting for emergency responders to arrive.

The next class is April 22 and 23 and will be held at Norfolk's Emergency Operation Center, 3661 East Virginia Beach Blvd. The June class date will be announced soon and classes will be held every other month from then on. Classes are free, but registration is required. For information or to register, call Jim Talbot at 441-5600.

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## **JOIN THE KEEP NORFOLK BEAUTIFUL RALLIES VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2006 GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP™**

*March 25th – June 10th*

Keep Norfolk Beautiful (KNB) volunteers will improve the quality of life in Norfolk as they clean up litter-strewn streets and waterways, and fix up and beautify public spaces during Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup™, the nation's largest annual community improvement program, March 25th thru June 10th. Events include Keep Norfolk Beautiful Days (March 25th), Earth Day (April 22nd), Electronic Recycling Day (May 20th), and Clean the Bay Day (June 10th). Civic organizations, youth groups, businesses and individuals are encouraged to roll up their sleeves and support clean communities. To volunteer, call 441-1347, or go to [www.norfolkbeautiful.org](http://www.norfolkbeautiful.org). A SIGN UP SHEET IS INCLUDED AT THE BACK OF THIS ISSUE OF CIVIC CONNECTION.

As an exciting addition, this year's local spokesperson is David Wright, Hampton Roads native and third baseman for the New York Mets! Sponsored by HRClean, public service announcements showcasing Wright's support of the campaign will begin airing in March.

In 2006, the Great American Cleanup is expected to involve close to 3 million people, volunteering more than 8 million hours to clean, beautify and improve 15,000 communities during 30,000 events from coast to coast in all 50 states. Activities will include beautifying parks and recreation areas, cleaning seashores and waterways, handling recycling collections, picking up litter, planting trees and flowers, and conducting educational programs and litter-free events.

Last year in Norfolk 7400 volunteers collected more than 77,000lbs. of litter and debris!

In addition, according to a 2005 Keep America Beautiful survey, 92 percent of Great American Cleanup organizers noted that their communities, neighborhoods and residents felt safer after volunteers united to clean and beautify the local environment.

### **About the Norfolk Environmental Commission**

The Norfolk Environmental Commission is a non-profit organization and a branch of the City of Norfolk Department of Public Works. Its mission is to lead citizens toward environmental stewardship. The Commission, local organizer of the Great American Cleanup, is supported by the Friends of Norfolk's Environment and the City of Norfolk.

### **About Keep America Beautiful, Inc.**

Keep America Beautiful, Inc., established in 1953, is the nation's largest volunteer-based community action and education organization. This national nonprofit forms public-private partnerships and programs that engage individuals to take greater responsibility for improving their community environments. The Great American Cleanup™ is the

organization's signature program that mobilizes millions of volunteers to improve their communities through hands-on participation. For more information, visit [www.kab.org](http://www.kab.org).

### **2006 Great American Cleanup National Sponsors**

American Honda Motor Company, Inc., Firestone Complete Auto Care™ TiresPlus®, GLAD® ForceFlex™ Trash Bags from The Glad Products Company, Pepsi-Cola Company, SAM'S CLUB®, Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Sparkle® Paper Towels from Georgia-Pacific Corporation, Troy-Bilt®, Waste Management, Inc. and Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company; Educational Partner: Rubber Manufacturers Association.

## **CITY CONDUCTS STREET LIGHT SWEEPS TO HELP CUT DOWN NUMBER OF OUTAGES**

Public Works implemented a street light sweep program with the focus on identifying and decreasing the number of outages throughout Norfolk. The program consists of a partnership between the Police Department and Public Works. Street light sweep crews are comprised of four teams of two who drive through the neighborhood streets after dusk twice a week to identify outages.

Since the inception of the program at the end of January, DOT received more than 49 phone calls, over 256 quality watch forms from police, and 36 website reports from citizens. In addition to the reports from citizens and the Police Department, in-house crews found more than 117 street light outages.

All information received is reported to Dominion Virginia Power for handling. In January, the total number of service calls was in excess of 590, which is an increase of 22 percent from the number received in December 2005.



## **Norfolk Announces Afterschool Program and Partnership with National League of Cities**

The City of Norfolk is kicking off its first afterschool program for local middle school students at 4 p.m., Monday, March 6, 2006 at Lake Taylor Middle School, 1380 Kempsville Road.

The “**After the Bell**” program honors the City's commitment to the National League of Cities' (NLC) new initiative that supports the healthy development of children and supports working families. The Norfolk Bureau of Youth Development in the Department of Neighborhood Preservation is the agency that will coordinate the program.

Vice Mayor Daun Hester is the National Chair for the NLC's Institute for Youth, Education and Families and has worked diligently with the NLC and YEF Institute to aid

in strengthening families and improving outcomes for children and youth. The YEF Institute is a special entity within the National League of Cities which helps municipal leaders take action on behalf of children, youth and families in their communities.

“Making certain our children and our parents have all the resources they need is crucial for children to become healthy, vital, responsible adults in our community,” said Vice Mayor Daun Hester. “Norfolk and the National League of Cities are working together on this so we can begin shaping young minds early into taking their lives in the right direction.”

Across the country, 14.3 million children take care of themselves after the school day ends. The lack of available, accessible afterschool programs for young people is a growing concern for public officials who work to promote safety and economic development in their communities.

Some facts to note:

- ❖ Studies show that youth are most likely to commit and become victims of crime between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. This is also the time when they are most likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drinking, smoking and using drugs.
- ❖ Research shows that students participating in afterschool programs have higher achievement levels in math, reading, science and other subjects.
- ❖ Afterschool programs help develop a broad range of skills, such as creative thinking, problem solving, the ability to work with diverse teams, communication, self-direction and the use of technology.
- ❖ Afterschool programs offer children fun activities, keep them safe and improve social skills, physical health and fitness.

The National League of Cities is the oldest and largest national organization representing municipal governments throughout the United States. Its mission is to strengthen and promote cities as centers of opportunity, leadership, and governance. Working in partnership with the 49 state municipal leagues, the National League of Cities serves as a resource to and an advocate for the more than 18,000 cities, villages, and towns it represents. For more information about the After the Bell program, call the Bureau of Youth Development at 441-2400.

## **STRIKE TEAM AND USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (GW) SAILORS COLLABORATE FOR LITTER PICK-UP**

In January, over 300 sailors from the USS George Washington (GW) picked up litter citywide as part of a special volunteer project partnership with the City. Sailors collected items from targeted neighborhoods, parks, schools and other major City arterials. With the coordination of John Deuel, GW Team Supervisors, and Arthur Riddick, Waste Management Operations Manager, the Bulk Waste Strike Team helped remove the trash and debris collected by the sailors.

Because of volunteer efforts by the GW sailors, there was over 15 tons of trash, bulk waste and yard waste collected and work was done in every City ward. Public Works staff is thankful for the work the USS George Washington sailors performed to help maintain a clean Norfolk.



## **DEMAND FOR BUILDING PERMITS REMAINS STRONG THIS WINTER**

Demand for building permits has remained high during the first part of the winter season, which is traditionally a slow period in the construction industry. This year, January's permit numbers matched and exceeded some summer month's activity levels. There were 1,347 permits issued, exceeding the previous three Januarys and setting another record in permit activity.

In addition to the number of permits issued, the fees generated from all permits in January were the second highest month on record, bringing in approximately \$263,000. This figure is second only to fees generated in August 2005. Inspection activity has also risen with 3,367 inspections performed for the month of January. This amount of inspections is a 17% increase as compared to past similar time periods. Based on anticipated construction projects already going through the process, we expect 2006 to be another busy year for Norfolk's construction industry.

## **CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY SPRING SESSION ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

The Norfolk Police Department's Spring Session of the Citizen's Police Academy will commence on March 30, 2006 and end on June 15, 2006. Classes meet on Thursdays from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. at the Second Patrol Division, 2500 N. Military Highway (Old TWA Building) in the city of Norfolk. The Citizen's Police Academy course is 12 weeks long and is offered twice a year. The Citizen's Police Academy continues to grow in popularity. The most recent class was the largest group to attend thus far.

### **Schedule\*:**

- Week 1: Introduction to Chief of Police Cybercrimes

- Week 2: Drugs and Narcotics
- Week 3: Patrol Techniques
- Week 4: Officer Survival S.O.T. Demonstration
- Week 5: K-9 Demonstration
- Week 6: Fire Department
- Week 7: Harbor Patrol; Ganges
- Week 8: State Police
- Week 9: Homicide Investigations; Emergency Operations Center
- Week 10: Medical Examiner
- Week 11: Forensics
- Week 12: Graduation

*\*Subject to change according to availability of instructors.*

If you live or work in Norfolk, you are eligible to submit an application for the Citizen's Academy. Other requests will be reviewed based upon request. The Citizen's Academy is sponsored by the Norfolk Police Department and is FREE. Each applicant must consent to a criminal background check.

To enroll in the Citizen's Academy, please contact Officer Whitley or Officer Gurdon at 664-6923 or see our website at [www.cpaaan.org](http://www.cpaaan.org) for a map or to print the application, fax the application at 664-6911 or mail the application to:

Citizen's Police Academy  
Second Patrol Division  
2500 N. Military Highway  
Norfolk, VA 23502

## **CITY EMPLOYS NEW TECHNIQUE TO REMOVE GRAFFITI**

The Division of Transportation is taking a proactive approach toward graffiti removal on stop signs throughout the City. In order to prevent frequent removal and replacement of graffiti damaged signs, the division purchased protective overlays to place on all stop signs. The overlay allows for easier removal of graffiti from stop signs when a citrus cleaner is applied. In the future, DOT plans to purchase stop signs with factory installed protective film, which will allow for easier removal of graffiti without damage to the design.

## **CITY GROUP MAKES TEXAS SITE VISITS**

A group led by assistant city manager Stanley Stein that included RLJ staff and Hilton Hotel development visited with management at two modern full service Hilton flagship hotels in Austin and Houston. The two hotels are representative of the newest

“program” for Hilton facilities. The trip included work sessions and site visits designed to learn first hand what works well and what issues are related to a development of the magnitude planned for Norfolk. This trip reaffirmed that the City’s pre-development conceptual design work, which is now underway is on track.

## **COMMERCE OFFICIALS PRAISE NORFOLK’S LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS**

Mayor Fraim, on behalf of the City, participated in the formal recognition ceremonies by officials from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency’s (NOAA) National Weather Service at the National Maritime Center on Tuesday declaring Norfolk both TsunamiReady and StormReady. The TsunamiReady and StormReady designation recognizes the proactive approach the City has taken to improving local weather and tsunami hazard planning. This level of readiness will help to better prepare and protect the lives and property of Norfolk residents and visitors during severe weather events, as well as preparing Norfolk for the rare, but potentially devastating consequences should a tsunami occur.

Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret.) Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere stated that NOAA recognizes that severe weather and tsunamis are a global hazard and that Norfolk is a national leader in planning for these potential disastrous events. Norfolk was also recognized for expanding program requirements and developing tsunami training for public safety employees, lifeguards and 911 dispatchers. Norfolk’s awareness training gives key employees an overview of the U.S. East Coast tsunami threat and explains in detail the phenomenon of water-drawback, a well-known precursor to a tsunami. NOAA officials said that had local government employees of the communities affected by the Asian tsunami been given the water-drawback education that Norfolk is providing our employees, many lives could have been saved.

## **NORFOLK’S SECOND CHANCES PROGRAM RECEIVES \$450,000 GRANT TO HELP COMBAT HOMELESSNESS**

Mayor Paul D. Fraim announced at the South Hampton Roads Regional Conference on Ending Homelessness that the State has awarded the STOP Organization’s Second Chances program a \$450,000 grant to rehabilitate an historic house to provide permanent housing for individuals who would otherwise be homeless.

The grant, awarded by the Commonwealth Priority Housing Fund, was established as the vehicle for addressing lower income housing needs.

Located on Lovitt Street in an isolated portion of the Brambleton area, the building will house 16 non-violent ex-offenders. The structure is in significant disrepair, having been boarded up for several years. It is currently owned by the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NRHA). NRHA will transfer ownership of the property to the Second Chances program without cost.

The City of Norfolk has launched a ten-year plan to end homelessness. A primary focus of the plan is to increase the availability of permanent supportive housing for the homeless. This grant award will bring the total number of permanent supportive housing units for the homeless in Norfolk to 221 from 134 just one year ago.

“Many people have said ending homelessness was a nice idea, but unrealistic. With this grant award, we are laying the foundation to make good on our promise. By the end of 2006, we will have made a 65% increase in permanent supportive housing for the homeless in just the first year of our plan’s implementation,” said Mayor Fraim.

Second Chances is a subsidiary of the STOP organization, funded primarily by the City of Norfolk that provides job training, counseling, and job placement services to non-violent ex-offenders. Formerly incarcerated persons returning to the community face tremendous barriers in obtaining jobs and housing.

“This housing project is a much-needed resource for the participants in our program. Forty percent of our clients either experience homelessness or are imminently homeless while they are working with us,” said Alphonso Albert, Executive Director of the Second Chances organization.

Harbor House was originally built in 1891. The grant funds will help rehabilitate the property to restore much of its original features, including a front porch that has been removed.

## **CITY PARTICIPATES IN COUNT TO DETERMINE HOMELESS POPULATION**

The Office to End Homelessness, the Norfolk Homeless Consortium and the Downtown Ambassadors worked in partnership recently to conduct a one-day annual *Point-In-Time Count of Norfolk's Homeless*. The purpose of the annual count is to gather data on the number of homeless persons during a designated 24-hour time period. Additionally, this census helps service providers better understand why people become homeless and how to better assist them. The count was conducted in the NEST church shelters, the Union Mission, the Day Centers at Salvation Army and St. Columbia, and five different feeding programs.

The street count took place from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and included the majority of the City with particular focus on the downtown area, Ocean View, Ghent/West Ghent, Park Place, Huntersville, and Barraud Park. Individuals and families in shelter programs (other than Union Mission and NEST) were counted electronically for the first time this year using the Homeless Management Information System. Staff is currently in the process



of verifying the data to eliminate duplicate counts. While no official information is available, the Director of the Office to End Homelessness anticipates Norfolk will show a slight increase in the overall homeless population due in part to a more comprehensive count over previous years.

## **NEW FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAM THAT DISCOUNTS MORTGAGE INTEREST FOR ELIGIBLE FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS**

The Virginia Housing Development Authority has announced recipients of the next round of *Sponsoring Partnerships and Revitalizing Communities* (SPARC) funding, awarding \$18.6 million for Norfolk (The City had requested \$32 million). This program provides cities, housing authorities and other developers of single family housing the ability to discount the fixed interest rate of a VHDA mortgage loan for first-time homebuyers. Listed below are the funding awards by organization:



| <b>Organization</b>                                | <b>SPARC Award</b>                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>City of Norfolk</b>                             | <b>\$5 million:</b> \$2,500,000 for full 1% discounts and \$2,500,000 for 1/2% discounts |
| <b>Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority</b> | <b>\$8 million:</b> \$5,000,000 for full 1% discounts and \$3,000,000 for 1/2% discounts |
| <b>Community Housing Partners CHDO</b>             | <b>\$3 million</b> for 1/2% discounts                                                    |
| <b>Plumb Line Ministries CHDO</b>                  | <b>\$1 million</b> for 1/2% discounts                                                    |
| <b>Park Place Redevelopment Foundation CHDO</b>    | <b>\$1 million</b> for 1/2% discounts                                                    |
| <b>Beacon Light CHDO</b>                           | <b>\$600,000</b> for 1/2% discounts                                                      |

In 2005, Norfolk was awarded \$3 million. The average loan amount per buyer totaled \$146,780.

## **CITY FEATURED AS PART OF PROFILE ON HAMPTON ROADS**

Norfolk and the region were featured in an upcoming article in the US Airways magazine. This magazine reaches 1.7 million business and leisure travelers each month. Due to its recent merger with American West Airlines, US Airways is now the nation's 5th largest carrier operating 4,386 daily flights to over 200 cities in 36 countries. Ongoing economic development is featured as well as the prominence of arts in our community, the diverse nightlife and the expanding housing options City-wide.

## **FY2006 TOURISM OPPORTUNITY GRANT PROGRAMS AWARDS**

City Council has affirmed the awarding of \$615,000 in 2006 Tourism Opportunity Grants (TOP) in financial assistance to marketing, cultural and arts groups within the City of Norfolk to increase tourism and visitors to the City. The funds are to be used as "challenge" grants wherein the City money is leveraged with other non-City funds and resources.

The funds for this grant program are a portion of the increased revenues collected from rate adjustments to the lodging and prepared food taxes approved in FY2003.

### **Response from the Agencies:**

- The City received \$1,605,000 in requests from 19 agencies.
- Three agencies submitted more than one request.
- There are 19 proposals that are recommended for funding.

### **Summary of Requests/Recommendations:**

| <b>AGENCY</b>                  | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>        | <b>FY06 FUNDING</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
|                                |                           |                     |
| Festevents                     | Jamestown 2007            | \$50,000            |
| Festevents                     | New Events                | \$60,000            |
| NCVB                           | Jamestown 2007            | \$100,000           |
| NCVB Foundation                | Scholarships              | 0                   |
| Nauticus Cruise Ships          | Cruise terminal marketing | \$60,000            |
| Selden Arcade                  | Marketing                 | \$15,000            |
| Virginia Arts Festival         | Jamestown 2007            | \$10,000            |
| Virginia Arts Festival         | Events                    | \$50,000            |
| Pepper Bird Foundation         | Jamestown 2007            | \$20,000            |
| HR Naval Historical Foundation | Jamestown 2007            | \$18,200            |
| Crispus Attucks                | Film Festival             | \$15,000            |

|                          |                               |                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| SEVAA                    | Afr'Am Festival               | \$40,000         |
| Norfolk Botanical Garden | Children's Garden Opening     | \$50,000         |
| Chrysler Museum          | Civil War Exhibit             | \$20,000         |
| WHRO                     | History of Norfolk            | \$5,000          |
| Virginia Symphony        | Royal Fireworks               | \$50,000         |
| Virginia Stage Company   | Plays                         | \$30,000         |
| d'Art Center             | Marketing                     | \$6,800          |
| Virginia Challenge       | Amateur Wrestling Competition | \$10,000         |
| Norfolk Little Theatre   | Plays                         | \$5,000          |
| Old Dominion University  | Film and literary festival    | 0                |
| DNC                      | Web site                      | 0                |
| <b>Total</b>             |                               | <b>\$615,000</b> |

## **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB AND NPS REACH USE AGREEMENT**

The Houston Boys and Girls Club moved operations to Norview Middle School after reaching an agreement with Norfolk Public Schools. The Club will operate from this interim site daily from 3:30 PM to 8:00 PM and will work collaboratively with the City's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department to provide a variety of programming for participants.

## **LOW-INTEREST LOANS ON NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECTS SAVE \$2.4 MILLION FOR THE CITY**

Since 2003, the Department of Utilities has participated in the Virginia Water Facilities Revolving Fund program, which has provided \$32.6 million in loans for wastewater projects in Norfolk and will save the City nearly \$2.5 million in interest over the life of the debts.

So far, these loans have funded 18 projects to improve wastewater services to 13 Norfolk neighborhoods and two projects to benefit the operation of the sanitary sewer system citywide. Recently, Utilities applied for an additional \$14.5 million at 0 percent interest, which will fund 10 more wastewater projects improving services in nine neighborhoods.

The loans, provided by grants from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and matching state funds, provide resources to assist localities with environmental improvements. Each loan application must include a list of capital improvement projects designed to reduce impacts the infrastructure might have on the environment. For example, Norfolk's application listed those wastewater projects aimed at reducing impacts such as sanitary sewer overflows and rainwater infiltration into the sewer system.

The loans are not easy to get. The application process alone requires extensive information about each construction project, including a description, the construction cost, estimated date of the project start and its duration. Even the construction contractor must adhere to specific procurement guidelines. And an environmental impact assessment must be done on each project.

Norfolk Utilities has received a VWFRF loan every year since 2003, and the interest rate has been lower each time. Projects funded, or planned to be funded, under these loans include: Fairmount Park, Phase 4, Glengariff, Carlisle Way (Talbot Park), and Glencove/Lochhaven, Phases 2 and 3.

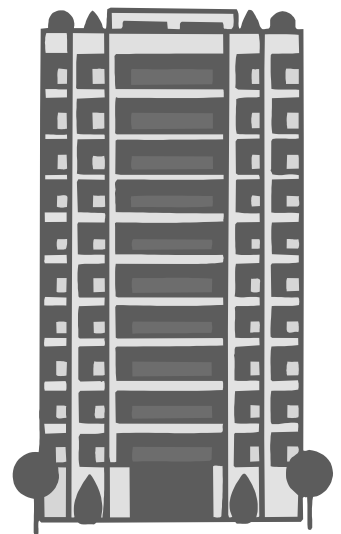
Norfolk's most recently-authorized VWFRF loan amounts to \$14.5 million at 0% interest. The project list for that loan included sanitary sewer improvements in the Central Brambleton, Kensington, Bayview/Bi-County Road, Berkley, Fairmount Park, Kenilworth, Forest Park, Huntersville, and Colonial Place neighborhoods. The loan closure should take place in June or July.

## **SMITH TRAVEL RESEARCH RELEASES DATA ON LOCAL HOTEL MARKET**

Smith Travel Research (STAR), which compiles research and analysis of hotel performance around the world, has released calendar year 2005 hotel statistics for the City of Norfolk.

Hotel occupancy of 64.9% was down slightly from the 66.3% occupancy level for calendar year 2004. However, actual hotel revenue increased from \$89.5 million to \$93.2 million (a 5% increase). It should be noted that revenue growth is partially attributed to an increase in hotel room inventory (supply) which grew from 4,327 available room nights to 5,281 room nights. This was a 20% increase and is attributed to the addition of new properties such as the Savannah Suites and Springhill Suites.

The actual number of rooms rented in the City increased from 1,047,119 to 1,218,925 with an average room rate (ADR) of \$76.02. This was a 2.5% increase over the 2004 ADR of \$74.18.



## **DISNEY'S THE LION KING, A ROARING SUCCESS**

Disney's **THE LION KING** closed at Norfolk's Chrysler Hall on Sunday, January 15 after a sold out, 45 performance engagement. With 98.96% of seats sold, the engagement grossed \$6.5 million, passing the previous record of \$6.4 million for "The Phantom of the Opera". The City of Norfolk received \$593,000.00 in admissions tax, the Division of Parking reported \$186,000.00 in parking revenue, including the revenue from

665 reserved parking spaces sold through Broadway at Chrysler Hall series. This total represents a \$122,000.00 increase in parking revenue over the same six-week period in 2004/05. Area restaurants report record business during a traditionally slow time of year.

Comments from patrons attending **THE LION KING** included, “amazing”, “awesome”, “nothing else like it”, “beautiful”, “just couldn’t imagine anything this wonderful”. The audience included everyone from infants, to great grandparents, avid theater goers to first time theater attendees. Tickets were sold from Virginia to California and Canada.

Baci Management, Inc., the presenter of Broadway at Chrysler Hall was proud to bring this amazing theatrical show to Norfolk and Hampton Roads. Baci President, Nicholas Litrenta, stated, “We strive to bring the very best of Broadway to our subscription cities and were pleased to have our subscribers and new theater patrons enjoy Disney’s award winning, **THE LION KING**”. We hope that many patrons of this show will join us in our new season which will be announced soon”.

John Rhamstine, Director of Norfolk’s facilities says, “**THE LION KING** has proven, again, that Norfolk is a great theater city”. We look forward to continuing to host the national touring shows, presented by Baci Management, Inc.”.

## **MULTI-AGENCY, MOBILE INCIDENT COMMAND POST**

The City of Norfolk has recently taken delivery of a multi-agency, mobile incident command post (large trailer) that was funded by a terrorism preparedness grant. Another grant will fund the installation of communications and audio-visual equipment on the unit. The trailer is designed to support multi-agency coordination at the scene of major incidents in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and will accommodate up to 30 personnel including seating at 2 separate conference tables and 8 communications stations. The unit is self-supporting and is equipped with a generator and heating/air conditioning system, and is wired for connectivity to phones and laptop computers.

Fire-Rescue, Police, and the Emergency Operations Center have jointly taken the lead in the development of the unit, however all city departments may at one time or another have personnel operating from the ICP when it is called into service. The unit is currently housed at Fire Station #1 (Downtown) and will be maintained and deployed by firefighters when needed. Possible uses include:

- Command/control/coordination by multi-agencies (local, state, federal) at major incidents involving fires, hazardous materials releases, aircraft crashes, natural disasters, or acts of terrorism.
- Mobile back-up EOC – in the event of a major hurricane the unit could be relocated out of the area until the storm passes and then brought back in to the city to provide

continued EOC functions in the event the primary and secondary EOC sites are damaged.

- Continuity of Operations – in the event of a fire or complete power failure at a critical city facility (EOC, 911 Center, City Hall, IT, etc.) the unit could be moved to the site to provide continuity of essential operations and services.
- Command and control of multi-agencies providing public safety coverage for major events such as Harborfest.
- Coordination of multi-agencies performing neighborhood sweeps.

## **SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS**

On February 1st, the Regional Taskforce on Ending Homelessness and the Planning Council sponsored a homelessness conference in Virginia Beach. The conference was designed to share ideas and build common understanding on strategies that will end homelessness in the region. The meeting brought together over 300 people from across Hampton Roads including Mayor Fraim and the Mayors of Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Suffolk, as well as Councilman Cliff Hayes of Chesapeake, and Isle of Wight County Board Chair Tom Wright.

Highlights of the conference included training sessions led by experts from across the country on:

- ☐ Developing permanent housing;
- ☐ Rapidly moving individuals and families out of shelter and into housing;
- ☐ Cost-effective residential substance abuse programs;
- ☐ Mental illness recovery;
- ☐ Improving outcomes for ex-offenders; and
- ☐ Employment strategies for the homeless.

Feedback from conference participants was overwhelmingly positive. The Regional Taskforce on Ending Homelessness and the Planning Council are now in the process of following up on the ideas generated at the conference for possible implementation in the region.

## **CITY'S JAG GRANT FUNDING LEVEL REDUCED BY 45%**

The City has been informed by the Department of Justice that funding assistance under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) has been reduced by 45%. The grant, which is scheduled for elimination, currently allows states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime, as well as improve the criminal justice system. This grant, which is based on population and crime statistics, allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of crime prevention activities that is based on local needs and conditions. Specific initiative areas include: law enforcement programs; prosecution and court programs; prevention and education programs; corrections programs; drug treatment programs; and planning, evaluation, and technology improvement.

## **URBAN WARFARE TRAINING EXERCISE IN NORFOLK**

The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit is participating in two weeks of intensive training in preparation for their upcoming deployment. This training will occur at area military installations, including the former armory on 29th Street in Norfolk.

The training centers on what the Marines call situational training exercises. The MEU will be issued a series of mock orders, designed to replicate the types of missions they're likely to face during their deployment. Residents of Norfolk, Newport News, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth and surrounding communities can expect to see Marines periodically throughout the exercises, which will go on until March 12. We are most likely to notice more military helicopters and ground vehicles than usual operating in the area.

## **FEMA REORGANIZATION AND FUNDING**

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced the [first steps](#) to improve the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster response capabilities in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. These new measures are intended to increase FEMA's efficiency by improving logistics capabilities, enhancing customer service, improving the debris removal process and building more effective communications. Planned changes include:

- Tracking trucks carrying food, water, ice, blankets and other emergency supplies by satellite to ensure they arrive at disaster sites quickly and with enough equipment.
- Sending FEMA employees to emergency shelters and other temporary housing venues to register victims for aid, instead of relying on victims to register by phone or the Internet.
- Creating a database of already-approved private contracting firms from disaster regions to remove debris and provide services faster.

- Creating "reconnaissance teams" to report disaster conditions to Homeland Security and FEMA operation centers within hours, and improving communication channels to ensure the information quickly gets to the president and Cabinet-level officials.
- Hiring up to 1,500 new full-time employees as year-round coordinators.

To facilitate these changes, the Department of Homeland Security requested a 10 percent increase in FEMA funding in its [budget request](#). Overall, DHS requested nearly \$43 billion, a six percent increase over last year's funding. The increased funding will target five key areas: strengthening preparedness, border security, transportation and maritime security, information sharing and strengthening DHS. Emergency Management Preparedness Grants, however, will decrease by \$15 million nationwide.

## **Fact Sheet: Strengthening FEMA to Maximize Mission Performance**

### **1. Improving FEMA's Logistics Capabilities**

- DHS will establish a more sophisticated and specialized logistics management system to better track shipments of materials and equipment, manage inventories, and ensure effective distribution and delivery of needed supplies.
- This new system will include a streamlined logistics supply chain to maximize readiness and ensure inventories and networks are in place to deliver supplies and assistance, while also replenishing stocks, in a reasonable amount of time.

### **2. Enhancing Customer Service and Intake Procedures**

New upgrades and improved business processing will be applied to FEMA's customer service system to strengthen its ability to register disaster victims eligible for assistance, protect against fraud and abuse, and adjust to changing needs of disaster populations during significant recovery periods. These changes include:

- Upgrades to FEMA web site and 1-800 call-in number to double existing capabilities by handling at least 200,000 disaster registrations per day;
- Advanced information technology and computer systems to more easily gather, search, and track case-specific information; and
- Continued training on professionalism and customer service for DHS personnel to ensure timely and accurate information is provided during an emergency.
- Establish a highly-trained unit of permanent employees, in addition to volunteers, to serve as a core disaster workforce able to take full advantage of DHS assets, resources, and capabilities;



- Develop a pilot program for deploying mobile disaster assistance trucks to victims in temporary housing or shelters enabling victims to receive assistance closer to home or place of work;

### **3. Improving the Debris Removal Process**

Debris removal often stands as a barrier to rebuilding homes, reconstructing infrastructure, and clearing public and private lands due to complicated contracting and reimbursement processes established between governments and communities. In order to streamline this process and ensure quick reimbursement for services, FEMA will work to establish solid contracting practices to help communities quickly begin recovery operations.

### **4. Building More Effective Communications**

DHS will establish a hardened set of communications capabilities to ensure timely and accurate awareness about conditions and events unfolding during a disaster. These capabilities will be achieved through:

- Interoperable equipment able to function despite loss of power, damage to infrastructure and severe weather;
- Enhanced communication capabilities to provide real-time information that can be used to inform decision making and prioritize resource requirements; and
- Specialized reconnaissance teams made up of DHS personnel and assets from components including the Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. These self-sustaining teams will relay vital information back to DHS to coordinate incident management activities and enhance information sharing between government officials and emergency responders.

## **SELDEN ARCADE RECEIVES HISTORIC TAX CREDITS**

Recently, the City received \$925,550 in state historic tax credits for Selden Arcade. The tax credits are being used to help fund the interior renovation and restoration of this historic facility.

Specific work includes renovation of interior areas on the first and second floor of the arcade that will create: greater flexibility and increased functionality of administrative work areas; enhanced meeting room space; and an exhibit gallery hall. We anticipate that the new Main Street curtain wall will be installed by the end of the month followed by the replacement of the glass double doors to the main arcade in March. Build out of the second floor staff offices, meeting room and exhibit gallery is expected to proceed in May and

expected to be completed in 90 days barring any unknown construction issues. Additionally, Roof repair issues are currently being addressed by the contractors.

Future restoration work still remains for the exterior of both north and south ends of the arcade.

## **PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THE CENTRAL HAMPTON BOULEVARD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

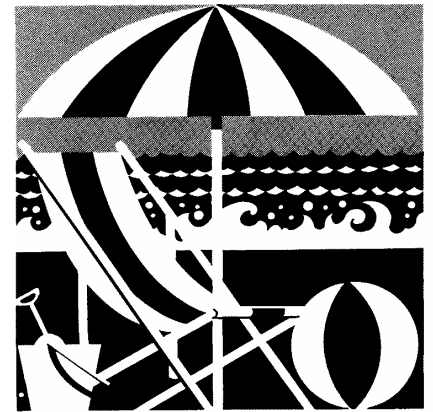
In follow-up to the successful open house held earlier this month, a public design workshop on the Central Hampton Boulevard Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for Monday, March 13th from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Larchmont Elementary School. The goal of this meeting is to form the basis for a new, unified vision for the area.

Members of the City's consulting team will present some initial observations regarding land use and urban design, housing, economic feasibility and transportation. Also, in an effort to gain as much input from the public as possible, small group workshops will be conducted to discuss how to strengthen the Central Hampton Boulevard area and make it a more coherent "district".

## **BAY BREEZE POINT PROVIDES NEW PUBLIC ACCESS TO BEACH**

Access to the Beach adjacent to the new Bay Breeze Point development has been in the past restricted due to the dunes system that separated the complex from the beach. In an effort to improve public access as well as protect the dunes, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Planning's Bureau of Environmental Services designed a new beach access within the subdivision that is now substantially complete and open to the public. Remaining items to be completed include connecting sidewalks, landscaping and signage. It is anticipated that the entire project will be finished by the end of April.

The new access is six feet wide and features a 160-foot long concrete sidewalk leading from Bay Point Drive. There is also a connecting 230-foot long elevated timber access over the dunes to the beachfront. As illustrated in the pictures below, the beach replenishment project adjacent to Bay Breeze Point has returned significant beach frontage for use by Norfolk residents and visitors.



## **EAST BEACH HARBOR**

A joint meeting between the City Council and City Planning Commission is planned for March 28th to discuss the proposed rezoning for the area known as East Beach Harbor. East Beach Harbor is identified as that area on the south side of Pretty Lake Avenue along

the waterfront between Shore Drive and Bay Breeze Point. Currently is it zoned industrial and marinas. After considerable work with UDA on design guidelines and with property owners and other stakeholders, we have zoning text changes to recommend that will result in a mixed use zoning that would include residential, commercial and marinas. Additionally, the orientation of the area is designed to provide excellent public access and view corridors.

# CITY UPDATES

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## CITY COUNCIL

### **Remarks of Mayor Paul Fraim, Wal-Mart Ground Breaking February 17, 2006**

Good morning, and thank all of you for being here this morning.

Today represents another significant milestone in the continuing revitalization of our historic city by the sea.

On this 20 acre site at the corner of Tidewater Drive and Little Creek Road, the nations largest and best know retailer – Wal-Mart – will construct a \$40 million dollar Super Center.

The new store will offer consumers more than 207,000 square feet of retail space.

And of paramount importance, 450 news jobs will be added to the Norfolk work force.

The commitment by such a prestigious company as Wal-Mart is one more clear and compelling example that corporate America realizes that investing in the rebirth of this exciting and dynamic city is a good investment – one that will produce significant dividends.

This new Wal-Mart will occupy a strategic location in the ongoing renaissance of the city's so-called "Uptown" District.

The creation of the district was a key component of the Greater Wards Corner comprehensive plan that stretches from Little Creek to Hampton Boulevard.

We are confident that the Wal-Mart Super Center will serve as the catalyst for the redevelopment of this critical retail, residential and commercial corridor in the heart of our city.

Even though construction has yet to begin, the Wal-Mart is already having an impact on Wards Corner.

To clear the site for construction, the city's multi-purpose center was demolished. The center, with expanded training services for higher paying jobs, will move to the vacant Ames department store in the Wards Corner shopping district.

This move will have a significant impact on the reputation of Wards Corner as a viable retail and commercial center.

The Wal-Mart Super Center is also adjacent to the city's new Central Business Park that's already attracting national and regional real estate developers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Wal-Mart for making such a substantial commitment to the city's future.

In particular, I would like to express my appreciation to Market Manager Chris Mehler for being with us this morning.

I am confident that the company's confidence in us will be rewarded.

And I'd also like to thank my colleagues on City Council for believing in the vision of what this city can and should be.

## **RECENT CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS**

- Council authorized the City Manger to execute a lease agreement with Colonna Shipyard, Inc. for City owned property located at Harbor Park. The proposed lease agreement would allow Colonna Shipyard to support a growing business of services to luxury yachts. The two year lease agreement for property at the former "boathouse" at Harbor Park for a base rent with docking fees for yachts at the site and requirements for the proper storage of materials and presentation of the site. There is also a six (6) month cancellation clause at the City's sole discretion. Additionally, this action provides time for Colonna Shipyard, Inc. to find a permanent site in support of this new business opportunity.
- Council approved a resolution of the Council of the City of Norfolk requesting the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority to conduct a blight study of Douglas Park and report on its findings and recommendations.
- Council approved \$25,000 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The City of Norfolk recently became a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) site under the guidance of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Funding from this grant will assist in the ongoing efforts of the City of Norfolk, the Juvenile Justice Planning Group and in the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative to address a variety of juvenile justice issues, including reducing the juvenile length of stay in detention, reducing the number of minorities petitioned, increasing the use of detention alternatives and reducing the number of commitments to the Department of Juvenile Justice. **Program:** This award will provide funding to acquire a consultant to complete an assessment analyzing current juvenile justice system. The consultant will also develop strategies devised from the assessment to be implemented for the reduction of racial disparity within the local juvenile justice system. The grant award

does not require a cash match. The ordinance appropriates \$25,000 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to pay for consultant fees.

- Council accepted \$660,306 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Funds of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and appropriated \$166,326 which is the required local cash match. The match is drawn from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs “Aid to Localities”) The money will be used to purchase self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and thermal imaging cameras.
- Council approved the application for a \$46,080 grant from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to continue the Violence Against Women V-Stop Program. The V-STOP Program is located in the Office of Commonwealth’s Attorney and assists female victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Funding is used for operating expenses and salary for one prosecutor and one victim advocate. The program has consistently accomplished its goals and seeks authorization for funding for another year of operation. The grant requires a local cash match of \$16,473.
- City Council authorized the sale of 11 acres of City-owned property to Noell Development Group, LLC. The property is located adjacent to Prichard Street and Cape Henry Avenue and adjacent to the Lake Wright Golf Course as well as the City’s pistol and K-9 range. The initial development includes a 63,000 square foot corporate headquarters’ building and an 84,000 square foot building that will begin as a multi-tenant facility and over time evolve into an expansion of the corporate headquarters. The proposed development is approximately \$23.2 million.
- Council accepted \$45,706 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to provide services that will ultimately shorten the length of stay of youth placed in secure detention. This funding will provide support services that expedite the step down process from secure detention to less secure detention alternatives inclusive of community based services. The program is designed to assure their needs while decreasing the average length of stay in secure detention. The grant award does not require a cash match.
- City Council approved a reduction in the number of licensed pawn shops. Previously, the Municipal Code of the City of the City of Norfolk limited the number of pawnshops in Norfolk’s to 20. The amendment reduces the number of pawn shops to 18 and makes distinctions between the number of licensed pawn brokers and the number of operational pawn shops. This classification is necessary in order to ensure than no more licenses are issued than the number of operating pawn shops. Finally, this amendment grandfathers existing pawn shops by permitting them to continue to operate at their current locations. The holder of a valid pawn broker’s license is barred from opening a new business until such time as the number of operating pawn shops drops below 18.
- City Council adopted an ordinance to write off \$571,349 in the amount of the non-collectible water charges, utility tax, refuse collections fees, sewer maintenance fees

and storm water fees for fiscal year 2002. It is the policy of the City of Norfolk to actively pursue collection of past due bills. However the Code of Virginia (VA Code Ann. 8.01-246 (4)) contains provisions that greatly increase the obstacles to successful collection after three (3) years and it is the City's policy, on an annual basis, to remove from the billing records the uncollected utilities bills of this age. For fiscal year 2002 the dollar amount of non-collectible accounts is \$571,349 out of total billed revenue of \$94,599,049. Norfolk's collection rate for utility billing is over 99.4% of the total billings. Extensive efforts are directed towards collection of delinquent accounts. A reminder notice is sent if the customer's final bill is not paid. Depending on the amount, delinquent final bills are either turned over to a collection agency or a judgment is pursued through the court system. The Department of Utilities attempts to locate the customer accessing information from the US Post Office, DMV and HRSD systems. The City also participates in the State Debt Set-off Program. This program allows the City to offset the outstanding bills against State tax refunds owed to the customer. For fiscal year 2002, the Department of Utilities collected \$107,398 through the State Debt Set-off Program.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

**MESA Course.** Norfolk Community Mental Health Services will offer the spring session of its Mutual Education, Support and Advocacy (MESA) Course beginning at 7 PM Tuesday, March 7th at the Hospitality Center, 6401 Tidewater Dr., Norfolk. The course, which is taught free of charge, is presented in two hour sessions once per week for 12 weeks and covers the basics of mental illness for the layperson. It includes such subjects as symptoms, medications, impact on the family, communication and coping strategies. Originally designed for the families of the diagnosed mentally ill, it is also of great value to caregivers, professionals and those who simply wish to increase their knowledge of mental illness. For further information, contact John Creekmore at 441-1170.

## **DOWNTOWN NORFOLK COUNCIL**

**Downtown Worker Survey Shows High Satisfaction with Downtown.** In partnership with the City of Norfolk's Department of Development, the Downtown Norfolk Council updated the Downtown Worker Survey first conducted in 1999. Data was collected through 237 face-to-face interviews conducted randomly throughout the office district.

The research had three goals:

- (1) To update the downtown employee demographic profiles.
- (2) To update the downtown employee fiscal impact assessment.
- (3) To measure on-going employee satisfaction with downtown Norfolk as a job location.

Results of the research reaffirmed both a high level of worker satisfaction and the significant fiscal impact that downtown workers have on the City.

Key findings of the research are:

- Since 1999, spending related taxes generated by the average downtown worker have increased by 70%. The average annual at-work expenditure by downtown workers was \$3,467 with retail and services accounting for the greatest portion of the annual expenditure.
- For every 8 new downtown workers, the City of Norfolk gains approximately \$1,000 of spending related sales taxes annually. Approximately two-thirds of these taxes are generated by workers who do not reside in Norfolk.
- On average, downtown Norfolk received a 4.3 rating out of a possible 5 for overall satisfaction as a place to work.
- Employees continued to give the highest rating (4.5) to “Downtown’s efficiency as a business place.”
- Those with prior jobs in the suburbs give downtown the same satisfaction rating as those who have traditionally worked downtown.
- 82% of survey respondents indicated they would be “likely or extremely likely” to recommend downtown as a work place.
- Downtown employees give high marks to downtown Norfolk for its pedestrian scale, its cleanliness and safety.
- The least liked aspect of downtown is the traffic congestion specifically related to back-ups generated by motorists attempting to cross the Berkeley Bridge.
- The share of employees who said that the things they “like” about working in downtown Norfolk outweigh the things they “dislike” about there increased significantly to 84%.

**Update from the City’s Office to End Homelessness.** The City of Norfolk was the second city in Virginia to initiate a ten year plan to end homelessness with the launch of the “Blueprint” in May, 2005. It opened an Office to End Homelessness a few months earlier (the only office of its kind in Virginia) and, already, great strides have been made toward accomplishing our goal.

For the past twenty years, the vast majority of shelter beds available to the homeless have been emergency or seasonal with limits on the length of stay of between 3 and 45 days. For those with serious mental illness and long-term disabilities, this has just meant continued cycling between the streets, jails, and the shelter system. The research on the cost of these chronically homeless individuals who rely on the shelter system is staggering – ranging from \$40,000 to \$130,000 per person per year. The research and experience of cities across the country is clear – invest in permanent housing and it nearly offsets its own cost with savings to the social safety net.

I am pleased to let you know that by the end of this calendar year, the City will see, at minimum, a 50% increase in the number of permanent supportive housing beds to house Norfolk's homeless.

While today it may feel as if the problem is only growing, the truth is just the reverse – the solution is gaining strength every day. It may take time before we have met our goal, but our progress will begin to be noticeable within the next year.

The Downtown Norfolk Council and its ambassadors have continually partnered with the Office to End Homelessness as we work with the mentally ill and other chronically homeless individuals to help them leave homelessness. We are grateful for their work every day to keep the downtown area safe and welcoming and we look forward to working with the downtown community as we implement our plan. Please contact me if you would like to get involved. You can reach me by phone: (757) 664-4488 or email: [Catherine.kitchen@norfolk.gov](mailto:Catherine.kitchen@norfolk.gov).

**Downtown Norfolk's First Restaurant Week a Great Success!** The restaurants were happy and the patrons were happy with Downtown Norfolk's first Restaurant Week.

Here's a snap shot of Restaurant Week by the numbers:

- Twenty Three Restaurants
- Seven Nights
- Fixed Price for a Three Course Meal - \$20.06 or \$30.06

The following information is based on a written survey from 567 restaurant week patrons....

- Average Check Before Tip - \$113.89
- Average number of patrons per table – 3.34
- 47% of those surveyed dine out more than 10 times per year
- 57% of the respondents had not previously dined in the restaurant they visited during Restaurant Week.
- 79% of those surveyed rated their dining experience as "Excellent."
- 59% of survey respondents lived outside of the City of Norfolk.



## **FIRE-RESCUE**

**Public Education and Fire Safety Grant Awarded to Norfolk Fire-Rescue.** Chief Senter, as you may recall, during an Informal Council session presentation in March 2005, outlined the Department of Fire-Rescue efforts to pursue grant opportunities to improve public education efforts following a number of tragic fires in our city during FY 2004-2005. I am pleased to announce that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/United



States Fire Administration (USFA) has awarded the department a Public Education and Fire Safety grant in the amount of \$129,888.

This grant will fund several projects including: new training materials and audio-visual equipment; a “Sparky the Fire Dog” hazard house and robotic fire engine; and most importantly \$84,000 to fund the first year salaries for two (2) public education specialists. Chief Senter has partnered with Norfolk Public Schools’ superintendent Dr. Stephen Jones to have the public education specialists once they are hired, teach fire and life safety education to elementary school students. These public education specialists will also be involved in a number of public education programs throughout the community.

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

**Take Advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** is a special credit for lower income workers to reduce their federal income tax. Those who qualify will owe less in taxes, and may be eligible for a bigger refund. If you worked during 2005 and your household income is less than \$37,000 you may be eligible for a tax return of up to \$4,400. Even if you don’t owe any taxes, you may still be eligible for the EITC if you worked in 2005.

To qualify for Tax Year 2005, you must have worked and earned income. Your adjusted gross income must be less than:

|                                                        |                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>\$11,750 (\$13,750)</b> If married, filing jointly) | If you do not have a qualifying child       |
| <b>\$31,030 (\$33,030)</b> If married filing jointly   | If you have one qualifying child            |
| <b>\$35,263 (\$37,263)</b> If married filing jointly   | If you have two or more qualifying children |

Taxpayers who qualify for EITC may also receive free electronic tax filing assistance at four locations in Norfolk. For more information bout the EITC, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites and their dates and hours of operation, contact **the Norfolk Commissioner of Revenue Office at 664-7885 or visit [www.shreitc.com](http://www.shreitc.com)**

### **Virginia Tax Assistance Locations**

**Calvert Square Family Investment Center**  
975 Bagnall Rd.

Christian Brothers  
5532 Raby Road, Suite 200

The STOP Organization  
2551 Alameda Ave.

Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia  
6350 Center Dr., Building 5

**2005 Holiday Project a Success.** The smiles of foster children throughout Norfolk were assured for the holidays with the community's generous donations to the 2005 Holidays for Foster Children Project. Citizens and local businesses contributed nearly \$9,000 dollars and enough toys, clothes, video games, sports equipment, and bicycles to fulfill the wish lists of 146 foster children in Norfolk and purchase gift certificates to 155 foster teens.

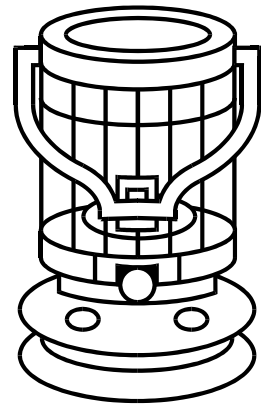


From the staff at the Norfolk Department of Human Services, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the holiday season a little brighter for every one of our children in foster care.

**Fuel Crisis Assistance Available Through March 15, 2006.** Applications and assistance for eligible households are available from through March 15, 2006. \*Assistance provided within 48 hours of application

**Fuel Crisis Assistance can help pay for:**

- Repair of heating equipment
- Replacement of heating equipment
- Once per lifetime payment of primary heat source utility security deposit
- Payment for emergency shelter for homeowners in a no-heat situation
- Purchase of primary home heating fuel
- Payment of primary heat utility bill (in instances when a cut-off notice exists)



**When Filing for Fuel Crisis Assistance**

- You can mail or fax your application
- Only one member of a household may apply
- Applications must be signed to be valid

***ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS***

- Must be a resident of the City of Norfolk
- Must have a heating expense

- Monthly gross income must not exceed:

| HOUSEHOLD<br>SIZE | MAXIMUM<br>INCOME |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 2                 | \$1,037           |
| 3                 | \$1,390           |
| 4                 | \$1,744           |
| 5                 | \$2,097           |
| 6                 | \$2,450           |
| 7                 | \$2,803           |
| 8                 | \$3,156           |
| 9                 | \$3,509           |
| 10                | \$3,863           |
| 11                | \$4,216           |
| 12                | \$4,569           |
| 13                | \$4,922           |
| 14                | \$5,275           |

*FUEL CRISIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 664-7550*

**Foster And Adoptive Parents Needed!** The Norfolk Department of Human Services stresses the growing need for Foster and/or Adoptive families to provide children in crisis with a warm, stable, and loving home. The next pre-service Foster/Adoptive Parent Training **Classes** begin **March 16, 2006**.

For more information, call Nancy Brock, P.R.I.D.E at 757-664-6079.

**Become An Adult Foster Caregiver.** Open your heart, your home and share the warmth with an adult in need. The adult years are sometimes difficult; a time of transition, loneliness or worry about major life changes.

Adult Foster Homes are a resource for elderly and disabled adults who may be victims of abuse, neglect, or circumstances beyond their control, and often find themselves in need of a helping hand. Are you...

- Willing to give an adult in need your care, time, and love in a family setting?
- Able to provide a safe and stable environment for an adult in your home?

Adult Foster Caregivers are:

- Provided with a stipend to defray the expenses of the adult's care
- An integral part of the coordination of community-based services
- Kept abreast of developments and new approaches to care-giving
- Afforded training opportunities
- Supported by a professional team of social workers

You can help. Sign up today to assist an adult in need. We are waiting to hear from you!

### **Adult Foster Care**

**Adult Protective Services/Adult Services**

**(757) 963-9245**

**[www.norfolk.gov/humanservices](http://www.norfolk.gov/humanservices)**

## **LIBRARIES**

**Norfolk Public Library Releases Strategic Direction For 2006-2011.** If you've visited your neighborhood library recently, you may have noticed some changes. Some libraries have added more computers, others have re-decorated and others are making their children's departments more interactive. Exciting changes are coming for Norfolk Public Library, from a new online catalog, a new Anchor Branch in 2007, to many behind the scene changes that will improve library services for all Norfolk residents. To help residents and leaders know where their Library is heading in the next five years, Norfolk Public Library has released its new 5-Year strategic directions covering 2006 to 2011. The Creating a City of Readers Strategic Directions identifies the vision, mission, values, and goals that will shape the Library's actions for the next 5 years, and highlights the initiatives the library will undertake to achieve these goals.

Developed under the guidance of Library Director Norman Maas, the Directions will help library employees, trustees, and volunteers design library services that best meet the informational, educational, reading, and technological needs of Norfolk's diverse community.

"Our Strategic Directions will ensure that the Library's energy and resources are used to provide library services that matter most to the people of Norfolk," says Norman Maas. "Developing more detailed action plans and objectives based on the directions will be our next step in the planning process," adds Maas.

The Directions represent the contributions of many diverse groups and individuals. A broad data-gathering effort involving library staff, trustees, Friends of the Library, and numerous groups in the community including local elected officials and library customers was utilized.

### **Goals & Strategies:**

The Creating a City of Readers report identifies 11 major directions and lists strategic actions areas under each direction.

- Strategic Direction 1 - Build the collection of books and other materials to better meet customer needs
- Strategic Direction 2 - Improve current facilities and develop plans for new building facilities to better accommodate our customers
- Strategic Direction 3 - Enhance library staff ability to better serve our customers

- Strategic Directions 4 - Use technology and computer resources to improve library services to the public
- Strategic Direction 5 - Strengthen Early Childhood Literacy and parent education through improved services available to children, families, and caregivers
- Strategic Direction 6 - Develop the After-School Initiative to provide constructive after-school activity for school-aged children and teenagers
- Strategic Direction 7 - Enhance local history and genealogy resources
- Strategic Direction 8 - Address the need for information related to community services, agencies, and organizations
- Strategic Direction 9 - Provide career information in support of people who are trying to find employment
- Strategic Direction 10 - Increase awareness of library services and activities while highlighting the value of the library to the community, both users and non-users alike
- Strategic Direction 11 - Increase external support for quality library services

For a printed copy of the Library's Strategic Directions call Tia Freeman, Public Relations Specialist of the Norfolk Public Library at 757-664-7338. The Directions are also available online at [www.npl.lib.va.us](http://www.npl.lib.va.us).

## NAUTICUS

### **The National Maritime Center Announces New Board of Directors—**

**Prominent Community Leaders to Steer New Board.** After months of planning, The National Maritime Center has announced its new Board of Directors. This new board will oversee all governance, policy formation, fiscal management, strategic planning and fundraising for the campus on the downtown Norfolk waterfront, which includes Nauticus, the USS Wisconsin, and the cruise terminal.

Chairman of the new board is Robert T. Taylor, president of Norfolk Warehouse Distribution and a longtime supporter of TNMC. "I have been passionate about the Center's potential since its beginning," Taylor says. "We want to build on our strengths, growing our campus to become a truly national-caliber destination where people of all ages and walks of life can experience the power of the sea. With the business acumen, hard work and financial commitment of our new board, we're off to a terrific start."

Norfolk Mayor Paul D. Fraim, who will also sit on the new Board, echoes Taylor's sentiments. "The National Maritime Center has the potential to truly live up to its name," Mayor Fraim says. "The City of Norfolk is thrilled to see such prominent business people in Norfolk, and all of Hampton Roads, tackle the responsibility of guiding the facility into a successful future."

In addition to Taylor and Fraim, board members are:

- Maryellen Baldwin, executive director of the Hampton Roads' Navy League and president of the Hampton Roads Naval Historical Foundation, the board that governs the Hampton Roads Naval Museum on the second floor of TNMC;
- R. Bruce Bradley, president of Landmark Publishing Group, and publisher of The Virginian-Pilot;
- Captain J. William Cofer, president of the Virginia Pilot Association, Virginia Beach;
- The Hon. Peter G. Decker, Jr, president of Decker, Cardon, Thomas, Weintraub & Neskis, P.C., and chair of the Norfolk Airport Authority;
- Bill Foster, president of the Norfolk region for TowneBank;
- Vice Admiral Alexander J. Krekich, president of BAE Systems Ship Repair;
- Bill Magann, president of W. F. Magann Corporation in Portsmouth and chair of Norfolk Festevents; and
- Jerrold Miller, president of Earl Industries, LLC, also in Portsmouth.

In December, the USS Wisconsin Foundation merged with the Nauticus Advisory Board and the National Maritime Center Foundation to form the new Maritime Center Board.

Taylor noted that the nominating committee — composed of members of the three now-dissolved boards — was precise in their selection of community leaders to fill these vital new roles.

“This is a time of great potential for The National Maritime Center,” Taylor says. “We made sure we had a mixture of leaders in the region’s dominant industries — shipbuilding, banking, publishing, and law. We are extremely excited to have this motivated group of leaders guide the future of TNMC.”

For more information, please contact The National Maritime Center at (757) 664-1000.

### **Changes to the “PeopleMover”; New Exhibits Among Changes Visitors Will See.**

After being closed weekdays in January for facility improvements, Nauticus resumed normal winter operating hours, which are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, Noon-5 p.m. (Closed Mondays). Changes made during the closure include a complete refurbishment of the “PeopleMover” (Nauticus’ escalator), and installation of two new permanent NOAA exhibits on the third floor.

The “PeopleMover” which previously featured the open jaws of a shark is being re-designed into a unique visual experience called Seascapes. High-definition videography will represent what it is like to move from the bottom of the ocean up to the water’s surface. Using multiple high-tech projectors and sound equipment, visitors will see images in motion of a submersible exploring the ocean depths, or whales swimming by their head, or even enormous container ships moving into the Ports of Virginia!

In addition, two new exhibits are being installed that will be completed in spring. Both will highlight the research of NOAA:

An Estuarine Environment Exhibit will allow visitors to explore the Chesapeake Bay. Hands-on exhibits, dioramas and a new aquarium will expose visitors to the four zones of the Bay – uplands, tidal marshes, underwater grasses, and oyster reefs. Students and families will see the plants and animals that live in and around the Bay and appreciate the technology used to chart the health of the Bay. The exhibit will even highlight ways that all of us help and hurt the watershed in which we live.

A Secrets of the Deep exhibit will explore America's underwater parks – the National Marine Sanctuaries. This section will even include a mock-up exhibit of a submarine called the Clelia, which will allow visitors to learn about exploration of the USS Monitor site and allow them to test their skills at operating the submarine's robotic arm.

For more information about these exciting changes, please call (757) 664-1000.

## **NORFOLK BOTANICAL GARDEN**

**Norfolk Botanical Garden seeks funding for an original artwork** to commemorate the important role of African Americans in its development and the Garden's part in the history of the region and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The objective of this memorial is to honor those African American WPA workers in the historical context of the late 1930s. Its design will reflect the social and economic climate faced by those individuals, as well as the origin of the Norfolk Botanical Garden.

This is a project of the Norfolk Botanical Garden Diversity Committee, which was formed in 2001. As a result of a market survey, Norfolk Botanical Garden recognized the need to increase the participation of minority populations, particularly African Americans. This memorial will not only serve to acknowledge and commemorate the Garden's history, but will also become a source of pride for the African American community.

**Historic Designation.** Through the work of Old Dominion University graduate student Cheryl White, the original acreage of the Garden was listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register by the Virginia State Review Board and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. The original site of the Garden is considered historic because of the continued maintenance of the original WPA design and the significant role it played in African American history.

This project has produced another very important connection in the community with a group of gifted students in Norfolk who make up the Ruffner Academy Community Problem-Solving Team. They chose to work with NBG and interviewed the family members/descendants, as well as one of the original WPA workers. They named their project D.I.R.T. (Digging Into Repressed Times), and produced a video of oral histories, a scrapbook, and won an international competition with their work on this project. Their voluntary project has all been conducted after school and overseen by a volunteer mentor, Elizabeth McLean. Their preservation of the first-hand accounts of the only known surviving planter became even more valuable when she passed away in January 2006.

From its humble beginnings as a WPA project to its status as a nationally-recognized historic landmark, the Garden attracts visitors from around the world. Norfolk Botanical Garden has experienced amazing growth. Today, Norfolk Botanical Garden includes 155 acres, with over 20 themed gardens that can be viewed by tram, boat or by foot. Norfolk Botanical Garden, along with local garden societies and volunteers, continues to expand and improve every year.

## **NORFOLK NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK**

### **NNN, TV 48, to Air New Exercise Show for the Young Set.**

Starting in March, Norfolk's neighborhood Network will begin airing "Jazz Cardio Strength Stretch" as a public service promoting healthy people in healthy neighborhoods. The show will air at 6:00 AM every day and a new episode will premiere every Thursday. JCSS is a professionally produced, non-commercial 30 minute workout created by Jazzercise founder Judi Sheppard Missett. There are five different workouts currently available for air. If you love cardio, strength and stretch workouts, tune in to the triple-N at 6:30 AM for this energetic addition to the NNN line-up!



**Safe Streets Summit Speaker on NNN TV-48.** If you missed the Safe Streets Summit held at Ruffner, now you've got a chance to see the keynote address. Beginning late February, you can watch Kent Amos, founder of the nationally known Urban Family Institute, discuss creating a child nurturing urban community. He's been interviewed by Oprah and his insightful speech is a wakeup call for the future of any city. Please check the NNN schedule online at [www.norfolk.gov/tv48](http://www.norfolk.gov/tv48) or the Norfolk Compass for airtimes through March. The speech is also available as a video stream at [www.norfolk.gov](http://www.norfolk.gov) TV48.

## **PACE**

### **PACE Support Services January meeting**

#### **Sector Reports:**

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> Blue Sector-Lt. Fran Emerson**

- We were informed of all the services the unit patrol provides, including block watch, identity theft and home invasion prevention.
- They serve 14 active civic leagues each month.
- Success story was that the Training Division has now included additional academies within the city.



**1<sup>st</sup> Red Sector-Lt. Jimmy Hackett**

- There are 21 active police officers within this sector.
- Norfolk State Homecoming was a success with minimal problems
- Services were provided for Homearama, which was held at the new Broad Creek area.
- Bike sweeps are done throughout the city for security.
- The new Farm Fresh within the Southside area is up and operating to a great extent, with the help of civic and community persons such as George Banks, Keela Boose, Kenneth Alexander and other advocates.
- Light Rail, if it happens, will go through much of this Sector

**1<sup>st</sup> Blue Sector-Ofc. Brent Routon**

- This sector serves the Park Place and Huntersville areas, among others
- Crime STATS are down at this time.
- There has been an increase with participants in Community Block Watch, which helps reduce criminal activity.
- Officers have been actively working with Codes, Zoning, and Public Health to do sweeps in targeted areas.
- Sector has manned extra cars and K-9 units in “hot spots”

**Success stories for 2005:**

**Peggy Crutchfield, CSB – Homeless Connection**

- Elaborated on Katie Kitchin implementing the City of Norfolk Homeless Connection after doing an extensive observance in San Francisco, CA. some of the results of this one-day effort:
  - Staff went out in vans to recover 302 homeless persons.
  - 17 were admitted to Mental Health, 4 Chronic homeless, 10 were issued Public Housing, and several were issued jobs.
  - The project was assisted by United Way volunteers.
  - Lions Club provided a dental van
  - Harry’s Bar B Q provided box lunches for each participant and client.

**Capt. George Vatava, NPD – Police recruiting**

- There were 30 recruits per class with overlapping classes
- 600 applications were processed to get 30 recruits with sufficient back ground, medical and written exams.
- There is a plan to set up regional training
- Next graduating class will be in March.
- There have been 60 graduates since the July retirements

### **LaVelda Ashburn, Neighborhood Preservation – Statewide Neighborhood Conference**

- The conference was held September 22-24<sup>th</sup> at the Waterside Sheraton with approximately 400 participants, including such dignitaries as Senator Yvonne Miller and Rep. Kenneth Alexander.
- Janaya Patton was the Chairperson for Norfolk. She was assisted by many volunteers, including Neighborhood Leisure Service Division of Neighborhood Services, PACE Outreach, Youth Development, Special Events, Parking, Planning and other city agencies, as well as volunteers from Norfolk Neighborhood University alumni Association.
- Several dynamic workshops were given, to name a few: Engaging Persons for Safer Neighborhoods, 7 Habits of Highly Effective Neighborhoods and Preparing Youth for the Future, along with scenic Mobile Tours.

### **Kathy Hall, Probation & Parole – Operation Trick nor Treat**

- We were informed of Operation Trick Nor Treat which started 6 years ago in surrounding cities.
- The program requires all child molesters and other felons to present themselves to the Police Department to prevent crime occurring on Halloween Night while kids are on the street
- Support is provided by Norfolk Police Department
- A drug and alcohol test is given along with a questionnaire and a substance abuse video.

### **Betty Temple, NRHA - Homearama**

- Enlightened us on the Homearama that was held at Broad Creek
- There were 18 houses e for viewing built by 16 different contracting companies.
- There were 4 houses sold at the time of Homearama
- NRHA received a \$500,000 grant for residents from the old Public Housing areas that were replaced to attend training in preparation for the working world.

### **Other newx**

- **World Changers** involved churches around the country who worked on almost 50 houses. The Norfolk Project which will be the “Grand Dad”. Nine focus neighborhoods are to be surveyed, they include: Ballentine, Coleman Place, Estabrook, Fairmont Park, Norview, Sewells Gardens, Berkley, Campostella, Lindenwood, with plans to add Park Place and Huntersville.
- **National Night Out** includes hundreds of people citywide. While the picnic was small due to rain, at least 300 people came out for the Parade in Villa Heights. Next year’s parade will be in Titustown.

- **Crime Prevention** Awards will be held 6:30 p.m. on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Airport Hilton. The cost is \$20.00 per person. The guest speaker will be Pete Decker, Esq. Nominations are now being accepted.
- **The Safe Streets** Initiative will include a program being called “Clean Streets for Safe Streets” which will focus in 4 neighborhoods hot spot neighborhoods: Huntersville, Lindenwood, Park Place and Denby Park. This effort will start with a one-day clean up and celebration, and then have a long term component to continue the clean-ups. The first meeting of neighborhood leaders will be 8:30 a.m., December 21<sup>st</sup> at Huntersville.
- **Traditional Christmas Story** was read: “Is There Really a Santa Claus?” written by Herman Hickman.
- **Closed out by thanking each attendee for being “Norfolk’s Unseen Santa Claus”.**

## PARKING

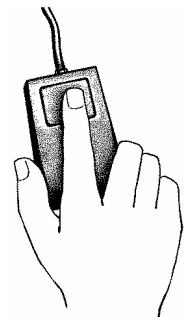
**Events In Residential Parking Permit Areas.** A resident who lives on a street that is zoned to have special parking has to obtain special permits from the Commissioner of the Revenue prior to holding an event. For example, if a street is zoned residents parking only (they have special hang tags on their vehicles then only residents with special hang tags are allowed to park on the street. Cars parked on that particular street without a tag will be ticketed.

*This rule does not apply to streets that have no special zoning.*

## POLICE

**Online Neighborhood Crime Mapper Program Available on the Web.** The Norfolk Police Department, in an effort to provide greater convenience to the public, has created a user friendly online neighborhood crime reporting program. This program, which is accessible at [www.norfolk.gov/police](http://www.norfolk.gov/police) is designed to provide City staff, civic leagues, business associations, and the general public access to crime incident data.

The website will be updated daily to provide for the most current information. Individuals who do not have access to the internet can still request crime incident data directly from the department.



## PROJECT UPDATES

**Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center undergoes HVAC Improvements.** The Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center closed February 18 through Tuesday, February 21 in order to allow contractors to install a new air conditioning system to replace the existing system, which was at the end of its useful life cycle. The Center will reopen on Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 AM.

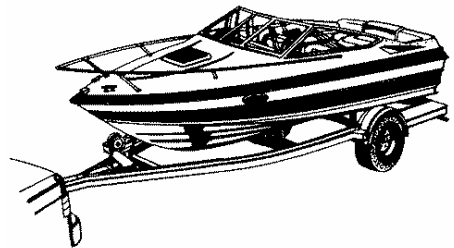
Cranes and other heavy equipment will be brought on site to install a new 12,000 pound chiller on the facility's roof. Additionally, the installation will result in the periodic shut off of electrical power to the facility. These conditions will require the total shutdown of the center during the installation process.

**Lake Burnt Mills Boat Ramp to Close Temporarily.** SUFFOLK, VA – The Lake Burnt Mills public boat ramp will be closed for 18 to 24 months while the Norfolk Department of Utilities makes improvements to the Lake Burnt Mills Dam. Construction will begin in April 2006 and is expected to end by May 2008.

During the construction, several improvements will be made to the Lake Burnt Mills Dam, continuing its compliance to the Federal Dam Safety Act. Part of the construction will enlarge the parking area for the boat ramp, increasing public access.

The improvement project requires that the water level of the lake be lowered as much as 12 feet to allow for construction. Upon completion of the project, the lake will be allowed to return to its normal level.

The Department of Utilities has already notified residents of the Lake Burnt Mills area that the ramp will be closing soon and that they should move their in-lake boats while it is still in operation. The ramp will close in April when the water level drops for construction.



To ensure work quality and minimize inconveniences to residents, business owners, and property owners, the City will have a Construction Inspector on site for the duration of the project.

**13<sup>th</sup> View Street Boat Ramp Update.** The larger south ramp is now open. The north ramp is nearing completion. The City is waiting on some concrete test results, but hopes to complete the ramp within a couple of weeks. Both ramps were damaged during Hurricane Isabel.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**State of the Schools Address 2006**

**Dr. Stephen C. Jones**

*Our Everest: Delivering on the promise of world-class education*

*Good evening ladies and gentlemen...Wasn't that a remarkable video? Please join me in a round of applause for all our schools and for the Channel 47 staff that assembled our "Year in Review" video.*

*I don't know about you, but I always enjoy seeing the exciting opportunities that occur in our schools and our district. In my case, it not only tells me how much Norfolk Public Schools accomplished over the last year, but also sets the bar for your expectations of me.*

*It is appropriate that this State of the Schools address comes at the beginning of the calendar year. As many of you know, the month of January was named for the Greek god Janus... a being with two faces who could look simultaneously into the past and into the future.*

*While none of us has two heads to perform such a feat, tonight I will ask you to join me in keeping one eye on the past and one eye on the future. I am here this evening to celebrate where we have been... and, most importantly, to show you what can be... what the future holds for the children of Norfolk... if we unite as a community behind public education.*

*You might notice that the format for this address is a bit different from years past. We have included student performances this evening... please join me in thanking Keenan Ruff of Norview High School; Cameron Watford, Joshlyn Gravely, Naque Walker, and Quenisha Jenkins of Dreamkeepers Academy; and the Granby High School ROTC cadets for sharing their talents with us tonight.*

*These performances remind us that it is the students of Norfolk that we serve. They are our future... They are the best... and most worthy... investment we can make.*

*Before we conclude this evening, you also will hear a performance by one of our staff members... She also happens to be the parent of a Norfolk Public Schools student. Her performance reminds us that making the children of Norfolk successful is a job for all of our stakeholders.*

*School staff cannot do this alone... We need the support of parents... the support of community members... the support of City leaders, business partners and others to ensure that our students achieve their full potential. Quite simply: Educating the children of Norfolk is a shared responsibility.*

*We accomplished great things over the past year... One of these achievements was winning the prestigious Broad Prize for Urban Education. There are so many things I could tell you about this exciting moment, but I prefer to give you the opportunity to*

*experience a few of these winning moments for yourself... Please direct your attention to the video screen.*

*[BROAD VIDEO CLIP]*

*Every time I see that video clip, my heart still races... The energy I could feel buzzing in that room as we were announced the winner is the same energy I feel in the halls and classrooms of our schools. It is the same energy, enthusiasm, and commitment that the Broad evaluators and judges sensed.*

*We faced stiff competition for this prize, but the decision was unanimous... and for good reason... Norfolk Public Schools has demonstrated tangible results over the past five years.*

*We know that individual schools here and there across the country have found formulas for success, but, as the Chicago Tribune points out, “Even more significant... is when an entire public school district manages to narrow the [achievement] gap steadily over time while improving achievement of all students...”*

*They conclude by saying, “There are lessons to be learned from Norfolk.”*

*The New York Times continues, “The public schools in Norfolk, Virginia... have steadily narrowed a wide gap between white and black students in reading and mathematics scores...”*

*Finally, U.S. News & World Report adds, “Today, Norfolk is one of those relatively few bright spots in the often bleak landscape of urban education, boasting impressive, ongoing gains...”*

*This progress is truly remarkable... BUT IT IS STILL NOT ENOUGH.*

*The Commonwealth of Virginia requires full accreditation for all schools by the end of this year... but full accreditation means that nearly one-third of our students can still be failing.*

*That is not good enough for me nor is it good enough for the children of Norfolk.*

*We are only a few percentage points from achieving universal Standards of Learning accreditation in our district, but we have declared that is to be our floor... a firm and important foundation. But now we must raise our eyes to the ceiling... and begin dismantling it.*

*In a companion monograph to his celebrated business book Good to Great, author Jim Collins explains: "No matter how much you have achieved, you will always be good relative to what you can become. Greatness is an inherently dynamic process, not an end point. The moment you think of yourself as great, your slide toward mediocrity will have already begun."*

*Ladies and Gentlemen: Winning the Broad Prize is validation of our very hard work. It names us as the top urban school system in the country and I am very proud of this accomplishment.*

*But we can be so much more... We can be one the best school systems in the world! Indeed, the School Board has charged me to ensure that Norfolk Public Schools becomes a world-class school system by the year 2010.*

*Early in my tenure here, someone compared this journey to world-class status to climbing a mountain. That analogy really stuck with me. The school system has engaged in hard work over the past five years to scale this mountain and now we are at the base camp.*

*We can see the summit in the distance... We know where we have to go and we have developed a timetable to get there. But, make no mistake. This last leg of the journey will be just as hard... if not harder.*

*I'd like to take a few minutes to share a story with you. It's one I first shared with our administrators last summer.*

*How many of you know who Sir Edmund Hillary is? Let me see a show of hands...*

*Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and his aide de camp... Tenzig Norgay of Nepal... became famous for being the first people to reach the top of Mount Everest.*

*Consider this: Mount Everest soars over 29,000 feet into the air... Between 1920 and 1952, seven major expeditions failed to reach the summit... In 1924, a famous mountaineer died in the attempt... In 1952, a team of Swiss mountain climbers was forced to turn back after reaching the south peak of Everest... just 1000 feet from their goal.*

*But on May 29, 1953, Hillary and Norgay set foot on the highest point on earth... They succeeded where others failed and survived a journey that had taken the lives of other great explorers before them.*

*Does this sound familiar to anyone? How many school systems across the country talk about being world-class? How many of those actually have accomplished that goal? How*

*many school systems talk about leaving no child behind? How many actually deliver on that promise?*

*You know that the path is littered with failures... But, where others have failed, we will succeed. We can... AND WILL... become a world-class school system by the year 2010.*

*Now, we toss that phrase “world-class” around quite a bit... But the difference between us and other districts is that we actually know what that means. We have identified four targets of world-class status. In a world class school system:*

*all students possess the habits of powerful literacy;*

*all gaps are eliminated while achievement for all students increases;*

*all schools exceed local, state, national and international benchmarks; and*

*all students are prepared to access productive options and opportunities upon graduation.*

*We know from reading Literacy with an Attitude by Patrick Finn that too many urban students are force-fed domesticating literacy... what we call “functional literacy.”*

*They are taught only what is necessary to maintain the inequities present in our society... They do not learn to think critically... They do not learn to question... They do not become empowered.*

*That is not the case in a world-class school system.*

*That will not be the case in Norfolk Public Schools.*

*Regardless of the color of skin, we will teach our children to be problem-solvers and leaders of their generation.*

*Regardless of exceptionality, we will teach our children to respect diversity, to work together, and to succeed.*

*Regardless of socio-economic status, we will teach our children the skills necessary to cope with a complex and changing future.*

*We will teach the children of Norfolk these things because, for us, ALL means ALL.*

*We have come a long way in making this a reality. A Kindergarten through second grade reading audit conducted nearly two years ago revealed sporadic implementation of our reading plan. Through intense focus and use of peer walk-throughs we saw more consistent implementation of best practices.*



*Additionally we now know how many students are reading on grade level allowing us to target intervention strategies where they are needed most. This audit was so effective, that we plan to conduct a similar review of our elementary math instructional program.*

*And as we flesh out our strategic plan for the next five years, we have identified a key standard that will prepare our students for future success.*

*We will ensure that each child is reading on grade level every year starting with Grade 1.*

*We know that effective reading skills are the key to student success regardless of the content area. This is a bold promise... but one that we know will pay tremendous dividends.*

*Another key initiative for Norfolk in the coming years will be to dramatically expand our pre-kindergarten services. Our data demonstrate clearly that children who participate in our pre-kindergarten program enjoy greater academic success.*

*When it comes to children who face challenges because of poverty or other circumstances, we know that early childhood education is critical in leveling the playing field.*

*Currently we serve approximately 1,600 four-year olds with the state covering about 86 percent of that cost. We estimate that another 1,800 children could benefit from attending a pre-kindergarten program if available.*

*Expansion of these early childhood offerings is a critical tool for reaching our target of powerful literacy... but it comes with a cost... and with its own set of challenges.*

*We must identify space for new classes... We must hire highly qualified staff... We must find funding... But despite these obstacles, we will implement universal pre-K. Look for expansions to be phased in over the next few years.*

*Our second identified target is eliminating all gaps while increasing achievement for all students. This means both achievement gaps and discipline gaps must narrow and close completely.*

*Whether a child lives in poverty or wealth... whether a child is black, brown or white... whether a child is male or female... we are committed to ensuring that each reaches his or her potential.*

*It's possible to artificially close achievement gaps by "putting the brakes" on the top performers. But our continued pledge to you is that progress for one group of students will not come at the expense of another.*

*And we are delivering on that promise... Over the last 8 years, we have seen a nearly 40 point gain in Grade 3 science scores, a nearly 63 point gain in Grade 5 and 8 history scores, and a 57 point gain in Algebra I.*

*During the last five years, the achievement gap between African American and Caucasian students decreased for 20 of 23 SOL tests.*

*Folks, the progress made by Norfolk Public Schools since the implementation of the SOLs is nothing short of remarkable... But we still face challenges.*

*As a district we need to raise SOLS scores in Grade 3 and Grade 8 English... in World Geography... in Earth Science... and in Geometry. And there are still significant achievement gaps to close... including Grade 5 science, Biology, and Geometry.*

*We also know that if all student groups are to move forward, we must place additional emphasis on our special and gifted education programs. Our exceptional learners have so much potential and we must be prepared to challenge them appropriately. Some of these efforts already are underway.*

*We have begun a reorganization of our Special Education Department to better meet the needs of our students and schools. Likewise, we are evaluating our gifted program to determine the necessary enhancements needed.*

*We must keep an intense focus on ensuring quality staffing and monitoring our accountability if we are to ensure that we will provide world-class opportunities for our exceptional learners.*

*We also know that we have work to do in closing the discipline gap... I am pleased to report that 99.5 percent of all our students experienced no incidents of physical violence. We are working actively with the Norfolk Police to ensure that gang activity is not a persistent problem in our schools. We have School Resource Officers and uniformed security personnel in all our secondary schools to assist in maintaining a safe, secure and civil learning environment.*

*But despite these successes, we recognize some daunting challenges. Our data reveal that African American males are referred for discipline at a rate much higher than any other demographic group.*

*We must find a way to consistently and compassionately dispense the appropriate discipline.*

*We know that kids misbehave when they aren't adequately engaged in the learning... And, we know that there are a variety of causes for that lack of engagement. But we have an obligation to find a way to reach these students.*

*The conundrum is this: When our students are not in the classroom, they are not learning. So, we must do all we can to minimize disruptions and keep our students in the traditional classroom.*

*But until we can fully engage our students in this way, we must provide quality alternative programs. To that end, I have commissioned a committee to review our alternative education offerings.*

*I believe this group will present some powerful findings and offer some profound recommendations for change.*

*Rest assured: We will not give up on any child. We will find a way to help each student reach his or her potential.*

*But I need to be clear: I am not willing to accept placing a child in an alternative program that lacks rigor. Meaningful learning must continue.*

*And, as we confront these educational, social, and emotional needs, exploration of shared services with community organizations and city agencies will be critical if we are to be successful.*

*Currently, we are piloting the Community of Caring program with several schools. While I will reserve judgment until the year is complete and we have more concrete data, the initial results look extremely promising.*

*The core values emphasized by this program... Trust... Responsibility... Respect... Caring... and Family... can make a profound impact when embraced by the school and the community.*

*If a student can make a meaningful connection with an adult, his or her chances for academic success increase. Our staff members are working to make that possible for all children in our schools.*

*You can help by volunteering as a mentor. It only takes a small time investment each week to make a lasting difference in the life of a child.*

*Our third target of world-class status is ensuring that all schools exceed local, state, national and international benchmarks. Again, I believe that we are well underway.*

*Elementary school SOL test pass rates exceeded state benchmarks for eight of nine subjects... Middle school pass rates exceeded state benchmarks for all five subjects... And high school pass rates exceeded state benchmarks for 11 of 12 subjects.*

*Federal No Child Left Behind legislation requires that by 2012 all students pass core content areas. We have established benchmarks for our schools and the district to ensure that all of our students are proficient by 2010... two years earlier than the federal deadline.*

*We continue to work diligently to improve our competitiveness in the area of Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment classes. We have increased course offerings and hired additional staff to ensure that at least 15 different AP opportunities are available at each high school.*

*We also created a "Scholars Specialist" position to work closely with the schools to ensure adequate training for teachers and to share advanced instructional practices.*

*We know we have much more to do in terms of increasing minority student enrollment and increasing the number of students overall scoring a three or better on the AP exams, but our efforts are paying big dividends.*

*Advanced Placement enrollment and test taking rose significantly this past year. Not only did this translate into increased academic rigor for our students, it also translates into savings for parents... big savings.*

*Tonight, it is my pleasure to present a ceremonial check to the parents of Norfolk Public Schools students. This check represents the tuition savings earned by students scoring a three or better on an AP exam or students successfully completing a dual enrollment course.*

*All told, they earned approximately 1,800 hours of college credit at an estimated value of \$335,031. What a tremendous payoff on our investment in public education... Let's hear it for our successful staff and students!*

*Our fourth and final target of world-class status is ensuring that all students are prepared to access productive options and opportunities upon graduation. No longer can schools afford to prepare students for either a college track or a career track.*

*We believe that graduates should be prepared to enter post-secondary education AND be able to enter the world of work. Indeed, the demands of the modern job market require that graduates be prepared for both.*

*Unfortunately, admission to a higher education institution requires more than just graduating...*

*Colleges review transcripts for rigorous subjects such as advanced math and science.*

*For our students to successfully complete these requirements, they must succeed in “gatekeeper” courses such as Algebra I. But these types of courses aren’t necessary just for the college-bound.*

*More and more the skills needed for success in academia have begun to overlap with the skills needed for success in the world of work. The same skills acquired in Algebra can lead to successful careers in ship-building, computer technology, and other competitive professions.*

*As a result, we are taking steps to ensure that all students complete Algebra I by the end of eighth grade. This includes extra support for students who need it and an intense focus on best practices in math instruction.*

*Mastery of the foundational skills and reasoning abilities necessary for Algebra opens the door for students to more rigorous courses and is an indicator of potential success for a host of AP courses.*

*As we move closer to this goal of having all students complete Algebra I by the end of eighth grade, we also move closer to the possibility of having every student complete at least one AP or one similar-level industry certification course prior to graduation.*

*Currently, 85 percent of our students plan to either attend a 4- or 2-year college or to enroll in an apprenticeship, career, or technical school.*

*Our goal is to increase that level to 100 percent.*

*We already have strong career programs in place... For example, our students can leave high school with industry certifications in Oracle and Sysco... Others opt for certification as pharmacy technicians.*

*Eighty one graduates earned lucrative certifications last year. But we must take a long, critical look at our career and technical course offerings to ensure that they provide adequate rigor and meet the needs of the business community.*

*We also must do all that we can to connect our students with the resources they need to take advantage of post-secondary education or career training. Graduates of the Class of 2005 were offered nearly 11 million dollars in scholarships... an amount that has more than doubled since 1996.*

*Best of all, we've taken a huge step in exceeding that amount this year. As a result of our Broad Prize win, fifty \$10,000 scholarships... half a million dollars... will be available to graduating seniors.*

*Despite all the good news, Norfolk Public Schools faces another fiscal hurdle. As an urban school system... as one of the oldest cities in the Commonwealth... we face unique challenges when it comes to our facilities.*

*The average age of our buildings is 40 years... We cannot aspire to be world class with leaky roofs... We cannot aspire to be world class when we can't plug in additional computers for fear of knocking out power to an entire building.*

*We have focused our efforts and our resources on building a model instructional program... and rightfully so. But we cannot claim to believe in equity and allow some of our children to be educated in substandard facilities.*

*We must aggressively lobby the state legislature for increased assistance with our capital needs and examine the potential for public-private partnerships.*

*I would like to personally thank our City officials... They have been a supportive partner of public education and I know that they will continue to assist us.*

*Our Mayor, our City Council and our City Manager understand that our children are a worthy investment and that quality schools are a key to successful economic development.*

*We meet tonight in a state-of-the-art facility.*

*In a few months, we will begin construction of a new Coleman Place Elementary School... and we will begin construction of a new Crossroads Elementary School about a year after that.*

*These are exciting projects for us, but our needs are great. The fact remains that, if we added a building to our capital improvement list today and if you had a child entering kindergarten in the fall, your child would not be able to attend that new school.*

*In fact, it is highly unlikely that the new facility would be complete until your grandchildren were ready to attend! At our current rate of replacement, it would take roughly 30 years to service, renovate, or replace all our buildings in need.*

*There are no easy answers to our facilities problems, but we must begin a community dialogue about potential solutions now.*

*I would be remiss if I did not recognize the contributions of an exceptional leader here with us tonight. I would like for Dr. Denise Schnitzer to stand and I ask you to join me in a round of applause to recognize her contributions to our success as interim Superintendent of Schools last year.*

*I need to recognize a few others as well. I'd like to ask Dee Edwards, Sue Bailey Scott, Cynthia Watson, Sharon Byrdson and Dr. Anna Dodson to stand. Dee was recently selected as Norfolk's Office Professional of the Year... She represents the tireless, experienced support provided by our clerical staff every day.*

*Sue teaches at Ruffner Academy and is our current Teacher of the Year. She represents the best talent... the best instructional practices... we have to offer our students.*

*Cynthia is the principal at Booker T. Washington High School and was selected by the Association of Educational Office Professionals as the Administrator of the Year.*

*Sharon is the principal at Azalea Gardens Middle School and was recently named the National Middle School Principal of the Year. Both Cynthia and Sharon are models of instructional leadership.*

*And Anna Dodson, former School Board member and Vice Chair, was recognized this fall with the Council of the Great City Schools' top honor... the Richard R. Green Award which recognizes outstanding contributions to urban public education.*

*Please join me in one more round of applause for these very special ladies...*

*When it comes to recognition, I have to say something about our outstanding staff. All our employees have played an important role in improving student achievement in Norfolk. I wish that I could personally congratulate each one. They certainly deserve it.*

*I also would like to commend our employee organizations... the elementary and secondary schools principals associations... the Association of Educational Office Professionals, the Education Association of Norfolk, and the Norfolk Federation of Teachers.*

*Their support of our goals has been a tremendous benefit... Please join me in thanking them for being vital partners in our journey to world-class status.*

*I also must take a moment to recognize our higher education partners... George Washington University, Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, and Tidewater Community College. Without their assistance, we could not prepare future teachers and principals for the challenges that lie ahead. These partners understand the needs of urban educators and students and are helping us to meet those needs. Please join me in a round of applause...*

*Obviously, I also would like to thank our School Board for their unwavering support of our journey. Their leadership and willingness to put the needs of students first has set the stage for our success. Please join me in recognizing these outstanding leaders.*

*Now, there is one more group that I need to recognize... and that is you... the parents, the community members, the business leaders. Join me in another round of applause for your assistance!*

*We have accomplished much over the last five years. But if we are to become a world-class school system by the year 2010, we need you.*

*I shared the story about climbing Mount Everest for a reason... You will recall that I mentioned not only Edmund Hillary, but also Tenzig Norgay.*

*Hillary could not have climbed that mountain alone. Without Norgay's support... without his guidance... Hillary could have been just another mountain climber who tried and failed.*

*In the same respect, we need you with us on this journey to world-class status.*

*During my tenure, you will see a dramatic expansion of our community engagement efforts... We will work diligently to improve our customer service and strive to make our schools more welcoming places.*

*These things will happen because I believe that educating our children is a shared responsibility.*

*Becoming a world-class school system will require the effort of all our stakeholder groups.*

*We need you to lobby our state legislators to preserve and enhance the money allocated to public education...*



*We need you to tell your City Council members that education is a top priority...*

*We need you to be involved in our public schools whether that is by visiting our schools regularly, attending special functions, or volunteering.*

*Most importantly, we need you to become ambassadors for Norfolk Public Schools.*

*I have shared some of the national news about Norfolk... Unfortunately, there are still too many here in our city who hold outdated opinions of our public schools.*

*Be an advocate for us... challenge those false assumptions when you hear them... Provide the facts about our progress. It will make all the difference in the world.*

*After all, successful public schools are vital to the health of our city. Without quality public schools, businesses will lack the skilled workforce they need to compete. Without quality public schools, we lack citizens ready to assume leadership roles in our communities. Without quality public schools, our children cannot succeed.*

*Ladies and gentlemen: becoming a world-class school system by 2010 seems a daunting task, but we can reach our goal.*

*Even things that seem impossible can be accomplished... After all, no one climbed Mount Everest until Hillary and Norgay.*

*It is simply a matter of commitment and discipline.*

*Winston Churchill once said, "The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you will see." As a former social studies teacher, that sentiment really appeals to me.*

*I want to call your attention to another special group of people who have joined us tonight.*

*You know, nearly fifty years ago, another difficult task faced our district and our city. Integrating our schools seemed impossible. But 17 courageous students accepted the challenge...*

*Supported by their families, their neighbors, and their churches, they rose to the occasion and bested oppression and bigotry.*

*I would ask the members of the Norfolk 17 who are with us tonight to stand. We have with us this evening Andrew Heidelberg, Patricia Turner, and Patricia White. Please join me in honoring them...*

*Can you imagine the circumstances they faced? Can you see yourself succeeding in that position?*

*The good news is that our charge is much less difficult... albeit still daunting.*

*Because of the Norfolk 17, minority students sit expectantly in our classrooms. If we are to truly honor that legacy, we can do no less than provide a world-class education to each child who enters our halls.*

*Churchill's words ring true. If we can see our past and where we have come from, we can chart a course toward the future and predict what will come.*

*We can look back five short years ago to a time when conventional wisdom said that poor kids... that children of color... could not be successful. Today we know that is untrue. We have seen the proof with our own eyes. It is especially appropriate that we acknowledge this as we celebrate Black History Month in February.*

*I asked you earlier to join me in keeping one eye on the past and one eye on the future. Tonight you have seen our past... the Norfolk 17... the remarkable results our school system has produced despite the odds. Tonight, you have heard the challenges we face in the present.*

*But I invite you to join me in keeping one eye firmly focused on the future. We can see 2010. We can see all our students succeeding. We can make this vision a reality.*

*As Jim Collins explains, "Greatness is not a function of circumstance. Greatness, it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice and discipline."*

*Ladies and gentlemen: We can see our future clearly... With your help, we can conquer our Everest and we can deliver on our promise of world-class education by the year 2010.*

*Thank you for your attention this evening. I look forward to working with you throughout the remainder of the year.*

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

**NEC Honored for Efforts in 2005.** The Norfolk Environmental Commission (NEC) received several national and regional awards for work in 2005. The NEC received the 2005 President's Circle Award, and award that recognizes the standards of excellence achieved as an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful (KAB). John Deuel, NEC Executive

Director, received the award on behalf of the NEC at the recent National KAP Conference in Orlando, Florida.

On January 19, at the annual River Stars Awards Luncheon, the Elizabeth River Project (ERP) was recognized for distinguished performance by a River Star in 2005. A River Star is an award for an organization that has documented progress in pollution prevention and/or wildlife habitats. The ERP River Star program is an effort to build leadership in the Elizabeth River watershed among businesses, government agencies and non-profit organizations in efforts to create more aggressive and voluntary pollution prevention measures.

As a model level River Star, the NEC received recognition for its efforts in the past year to sustain and build upon its accomplishments. The NEC won the “Sustained Distinguished Performance” award level due to its role in coordinating wetlands enhancements in Knitting Mill Creek, collaborating with SPSA in implementing the “Big Easy” curbside recycling program, and mentoring numerous other River Stars, including the Hampton Roads Rowing Club.

Other NEC accomplishments included the organization of 14,935 volunteers in FY-05, environmental education programs to over 4,700 students and community outreach presentations to 1,826 adults.

**Storm Water Keeps Shopping Carts off the Streets.** The Division of Environmental Storm Water Management collected more than 3,800 abandoned shopping carts since the inception of the program in summer of 2002. The number of carts removed from City streets has increased each year; numbers for FY-06 have already topped last fiscal year’s total through December by 14 percent.

Storm Water sells carts back to their original stores for \$10 each, a bargain for retailers who pay as much as \$200 for a new cart. Storm Water transports any remaining carts to the City’s towing lot to be crushed and recycled.



| Fiscal Year         | Carts Collected | Sold back to stores | Recycled |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------|
| 2003                | 475             | n/a                 | 475      |
| 2004                | 1159            | 515                 | 644      |
| 2005                | 1407            | 759                 | 648      |
| 2006 (through Dec.) | 815             | 483                 | 332      |

### **Design Division Proposals and Bid Awards**

The following companies received Notices to Proceed:

- Blyden Library Roof Replacement—States Roofing Corporation

- Dredging and Environmental Permitting—Waterway Surveys & Engineering, Ltd.
- Architectural/Engineering Design Services for Public Facilities Roof Testing, Repair and Replacement, and Building Moisture Protection—FY 2006—Hentz Engineering

The following bid openings and awards were held for the period December 10, 2005-January 13, 2006.

- Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center-Partial Roof Placement—Roofing & Restoration
- City of Norfolk Elevation Project—CPG, Inc.
- Park Place ADA Improvements Phase II—Excel Paving
- Town Point Parking Garage Elevator Modernization—Blueridge Elevator
- Norfolk Fire Station Generators-Phase III—Industrial Turnaround

## **UTILITIES**

Norfolk Resident:

We want to hear from you. What do you think of your water and sewer services in Norfolk? The City of Norfolk's Department of Utilities strives to enhance quality of life by providing excellent water and wastewater services at the best possible value to our customers. How are we doing?

The Department of Utilities provides clean and healthy water, transports wastewater to HRSD, maintains water and sewer lines, and responds to customer billing needs. Your feedback will help us determine our effectiveness in providing these vital services.

Please take a few moments to complete this anonymous survey and return it by mail to City of Norfolk, Department of Utilities, POB 1080, Norfolk, VA 23501 or you may visit the Department of Utilities Website at <http://www.norfolk.gov/utilities> to complete the survey online.

We'll use your feedback to examine the quality of our services and identify ways we can improve. Please contact us any time we can serve you.

## **ZOO**

**Virginia Zoo Director Leaves for Fresno--City Continues Commitment to Capital Plan.** Norfolk City Manager Regina V.K. Williams and Virginia Zoological Society Board Chair Carolyn Betz announced the resignation of Lewis Greene, Executive Director of the Virginia Zoo, who has accepted the position of Director of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in

Fresno, California. Williams and Betz expressed regret to lose Mr. Greene, whom they complimented on his achievements during his 3 ½ years with the City.

Norfolk Mayor Paul D. Fraim said, “Lewis is a fine professional and has played a key role in creating a solid vision for the zoo’s future. With the completion of the Africa exhibit and an updated Master Plan in place, we are well positioned to continue the progressive direction and capital investment that is turning the Virginia Zoo into a remarkable jewel for residents and visitors alike.”

Mr. Greene came to the Virginia Zoo in August 2002 from the Prospect Park Zoo in Brooklyn, NY, where he also served as director. Greene will transition to his new position in the next month. As Virginia Zoo Director, Greene manages both the city operated zoo and the private non-profit support organization. Under his leadership the Virginia Zoo opened an entry complex that includes education classrooms, gift shop, and administrative offices. A prairie dog habitat was added and the Children’s Zoo renovated.

Lewis said, “It was a difficult decision, but I was offered a once in a lifetime opportunity for a zoo professional. It has been an honor to be a part of the Virginia Zoo team and to have played a small role in the continuing development of the Zoo. The City of Norfolk and the Virginia Zoological Society Board are wonderful partners and are creating an urban asset.”

The City and the Society are strongly committed to keeping the momentum going and expect no delays in their announced capital campaign. Already, the City has earmarked \$6 million in its capital budget and the Society is fundraising another \$5 million for the next phase of capital enhancement.

An announcement will be made shortly as to an Interim Director and the transitional plan to ensure continuity of all operations while the recruitment process for a new Director is begun.

**New President Selected.** The Virginia Zoological Society has selected a new president to the Zoo’s non-profit governing body. Carolyn Betz, a Virginia Zoological Society board member from Virginia Beach succeeds Henry Light, an attorney, beginning this year. Betz has been a long-time supporter, friend and advocate for the Zoo. She has served on the Zoo Society Board of Trustees since 2003. She has successfully accepted roles as Development Committee chairperson and Capital Campaign Committee chairperson. She serves as an outstanding ambassador for the Zoo as she raises awareness and is a vital component to the Zoo’s fundraising efforts.

The remaining officers include, Vice President Larry Brett of Trader Publishing, Treasurer Andy Callahan of BB&T, and Recording Secretary Tom Berkley of Vandeventer Black LLP. Additionally the Society includes the following committee chairs:

- Administration and Operations Committee Chair, Marva Smith of USAA
- Development Committee Chair, Larry Brett of Trader Publishing

- Education and Conservation Committee Chair, Bob White of the Bank of the Commonwealth
- Marketing Committee Chair, Tom Kilby of The Berkshire Group
- Nominating Committee Chair, Erik Cooper of Cooper Realty

As an accredited American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) facility, your Virginia Zoo exhibits over 350 animals, beautifully manicured grounds and offers a fun-filled day for all. For more than a century, your Virginia Zoo has demonstrated a commitment to wildlife, conservation and education. Your Virginia Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and located at 3500 Granby Street in Norfolk. Daily admission prices are \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors (age 62 and over), and \$4.00 for children ages 2-11. Visit [www.virginiazoo.org](http://www.virginiazoo.org) or call (757) 441-2374 for more information.

**Virginia Zoo Saddened by the Loss of Male Bongo.** A visitor alerted Zoo staff that something appeared to be wrong with the male bongo early yesterday afternoon. Zoo staff confirmed that the bongo had passed away in its exhibit. The bongo came to the Virginia Zoo in July of 2004 from the Kansas City Zoo, located in Kansas City, Missouri. The male bongo was twelve years old and had sired a calf born just last summer. The cause of death is unknown at this time, necropsy results are pending. An initial examination showed no signs of illness or injury.

# IN THE COMMUNITY

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## WATCH OUT FOR EMAIL SCAM CONCERNING TAX REFUNDS

The Norfolk Sheriff's Office's Crime Prevention personnel have become aware of yet another scam floating through the Internet. The Internal Revenue Service issued a consumer alert about an Internet scam in which consumers receive an e-mail informing them of a tax refund. The e-mail, which claims to be from the IRS, directs the consumer to a link that requests personal information, such as Social Security numbers and credit card information.

This scheme is an attempt to trick the e-mail recipients into disclosing their personal and financial data. The practice is called “phishing” for information.

The information fraudently obtained is then used to steal the taxpayer’s identity and financial assets. Generally, identity thieves use someone’s personal data to steal his or her financial accounts, run up charges on the victim’s existing credit cards, apply for new loans, credit cards, services or benefits in the victim’s name, and even file fraudulent tax returns.

The bogus e-mail, which claims to come from [tax-refunds@irs.gov](mailto:tax-refunds@irs.gov) tells the recipient that he or she is eligible to receive a tax refund for a given amount. It then says that, to access a form for the tax refund, the recipient must use a link contained in the e-mail. The link then asks for the personal and financial information.

The IRS does not ask for personal identifying or financial information via unsolicited e-mail. Additionally, taxpayers do not have to complete a special form to obtain a refund.

If you receive an unsolicited e-mail purporting to be from the IRS, take the following steps:

1. Do not open any attachments to the e-mail, in case they contain malicious code that will infect your computer.
2. Contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 to determine whether the IRS is trying to contact you about a tax refund.

The IRS has seen numerous attempts over the years to defraud the public and the federal government through a variety of schemes, including: abusive tax avoidance transactions, identity theft, claims for slavery reparations, frivolous arguments, and more. Additional information on these schemes may be found on the criminal enforcement page at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

Sheriff McCabe has made it a point to offer crime prevention services and support to help the citizens of the City of Norfolk. Please contact the Sheriff’s Community Affairs Division at 757-441-5080 for more information. Please refer to our website at [www.norfolksheriffsoffice.com/crime\\_prevention.htm](http://www.norfolksheriffsoffice.com/crime_prevention.htm).

## **AMERICA'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY.... THE JOURNEY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**

**Non-Profits Grants Conference** -- In an effort to assist local non-profit organizations and local government entities faced with tight budgets, Congressman Frank Wolf invites interested parties to join him at a grants conference to introduce them to or refresh their knowledge of the federal grant process. A similar conference was held in the spring of 2004. It is particularly geared for those who are not familiar with competitive federal grant funding available through federal agencies. There are over 900 grant programs offered by

the 26 federal grant-making agencies. They award over \$350 billion annually to state and local governments, academia, not-for-profits and other organizations. To help participants learn more about this process, Congressman Wolf has invited federal agency representatives to discuss the [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) website. The website allows organizations to electronically find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all federal grant-making agencies. Additionally, Congressman Wolf has invited representatives from the departments of Education, Justice and Health and Human Services to provide guidance on grant writing and strategies for successful applications. The workshop will be held from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm on Tuesday, March 7th, at the Loudoun County Public School Administration Building, located at 21000 Education Court in Ashburn. The first conference in 2004 was a huge success with more than 350 people expressing interest in attending. Attendance will be limited to the first 400 registrants. For more information, or to register on-line see <http://www.house.gov/wolf/issues/Grants/Grant%20Agenda.html>. Please contact Courtney Schlieter or Jillian Pevo on the Congressman's staff at 202-225-5136 if you have questions.

**Civilized Men: A James Towne Tragedy** -- Archaeologist and historian Ivor Noel Hume will discuss and sign his new novel *Civilized Men: A James Towne Tragedy*, a fact-based novel that contrasts with the familiar and almost entirely fictional story of Pocahontas and John Smith. The novel tells the story of the clash of cultures and religion in 17th century Virginia. Hume was archaeologist for the City of London prior to coming to Virginia in 1957 to direct Colonial Williamsburg's Department of Archaeology, a position he held until his retirement in 1987. This free lecture will be held in the Library of Virginia's Conference Rooms on Thursday, May 18th at 12 p.m. For additional information, please call 804-371-4795 or visit Library of Virginia Events site <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whoweare/events/index.asp?date=5/1/2006>.

**Building Relationships, Building Success: Achieving Our Preservation Goals** -- This workshop presented by the National Trust for Historic Preservation will provide information on how to develop and strengthen relationships with elected officials & how to translate those relationships into support for your preservation goals. Attendees will learn about laying the groundwork for relationship building, developing a message that will resonate with elected officials, effective ways to communicate your message, activities that can help strengthen the relationship & overall strategies to influence policy-making through effective advocacy. Elected officials at all levels of government are involved in decision-making that can enable historic preservation efforts or, conversely, threaten historic resources. When preservationists build & maintain relationships with these elected officials, they are able to influence decisions on issues, such as government funding for historic preservation & incentives that help communities thrive. Workshop instructors are Renee Viers, NTHP Associate Director of State & Local Policy, and Stacey Mahaney, NTHP Program Associate for Congressional Affairs & Public Policy. Friday,



April 7th from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. in Charlottesville. Cost of the workshop is \$30 for APVA & National Trust for Historic Preservation members; \$35 for non-members and lunch is included. To register please contact Terry Graham, APVA Program & Public Relations Manager at 804-648-1889, ext. 314, or e-mail at [tgraham@apva.org](mailto:tgraham@apva.org)

**The Virginia Forum** -- A conference on Virginia history and related fields held in Winchester on Friday April 7th and Saturday April 8th, and sponsored by Shenandoah University and the Library of Virginia. Virginia has never possessed an organization or annual meeting for those researching, writing, interpreting, and teaching the history of the commonwealth. The Forum is intended to address this deficiency and establish a precedent for future meetings in which an evolving scholarship of Virginia history can be developed. This event will be of interest to students, teachers, and scholars, as well as historical professionals from museums, historical societies, historic sites, and all related fields including public history, preservation, geography, literature, and archaeology. Warren Hofstra and Brent Tarter are conference chairs. For the conference program or registration information, see the conference website under the conferences tab at Knowledge Point site <<http://www.theknowledgepoint.org/>> or contact Sandy Snyder at [ssnyder@su.edu](mailto:ssnyder@su.edu) <<mailto:ssnyder@su.edu>> or 540-535-3543.

## **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS RECEIVES MORE THAN \$25,000 IN PROCEEDS FROM COASTAL LIVING IDEA HOUSE AT EAST BEACH**

East Beach Company LLC, the developers of East Beach in Norfolk, presented Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Hampton Roads a check in the amount of \$25,884.51 from proceeds raised during the Coastal Living 2005 Idea House home tour.

One of the East Beach homes located on the Chesapeake Bay was selected by Coastal Living magazine to be its 2005 Idea House. The house was open to the general public from August to December. Big Brothers Big Sisters provided volunteers to staff the home throughout the tour.

“We are very pleased to exceed even our initial projections both in terms of visitors and revenues generated from the home tour,” says Bart Frye, managing partner with East Beach Company. “The response was overwhelming, and we are proud to make this contribution to such a worthwhile community organization.”

This was the first time Coastal Living selected a home in Virginia to feature as an Idea House. Idea Houses are designed to inspire—from architectural elements, color palette, fabric patterns to the furniture and accessories that make it a home. The East Beach house was featured in more than 30 pages of the magazine’s November issue.

East Beach, Virginia’s new waterfront village, is situated on 100-acres along the Chesapeake Bay in Norfolk. Surrounded by water, the neighborhood is fashioned after classic Southeastern seaboard coastal villages. The master plan for this \$400 million

development includes 700 residences, neighborhood restaurants, boutique shops, a Bay Front Club and offices. Public space, walking paths and bay front greens enhance the vistas and create open spaces for the beachfront community. Boating, fishing and water sports of all types are steps away from the neighborhood. East Beach is a unique initiative between the developers, East Beach Company LLC, the City of Norfolk and Norfolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority. For information, visit [www.eastbeachnorfolk.com](http://www.eastbeachnorfolk.com) or call 757-333-6650.

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Hampton Roads is to make a positive difference in the lives of children and youth primarily from single parent families, through professionally supported one-to-one relationships with a caring adult mentor, who can assist them in achieving their highest potential as they grow to become confident and responsible individuals. For more information, visit [www.bbbsofshr.org](http://www.bbbsofshr.org).

## **VIRGINIA OPERA HIRES SOPRANO**

Following a highly successful opening weekend in Norfolk of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, leading soprano Jane Redding and stage director Lorna Haywood were both signed this week for Virginia Opera productions in the 2006-2007 season. Ms. Redding will return in January 2007 as the sensuous *Poppea* in the Virginia Premiere of George Frederic Handel's famous baroque opera, *Agrippina* - one of his few comedies, and perhaps the first to be hailed as a masterpiece.

"Jane Redding is one of the most accomplished singers ever to have lit up our stages," said Virginia Opera Artistic Director Peter Mark. "With her beautifully modulated soprano voice and brilliantly flexible and acrobatic vocal technique, she still has gobs of energy in reserve for the mixture of charm, sensual allure, and comedy she brings to her roles. She is a knock-out currently as the pert and playful *Susanna*, giving our audiences a preview of the very wily and seductive *Poppea* she will perform, which is so pivotal to Handel's comedy."

Ms. Haywood returns in March 2007 to direct the popular "Cav-Pag" double-bill - Pietro Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* and Ruggero Leoncavallo's *I Pagliacci*. "As an internationally-admired leading soprano and seasoned director, Lorna is able to bring her extensive experience into focus with informed, intelligent, practical, and deeply-understood and felt stage direction. We are proud to have her on our roster once again," said Maestro Mark.

*The Marriage of Figaro* concludes its performances in Norfolk this weekend at the Harrison Opera House - Friday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Performances at George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax are Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. Performances at Richmond's Landmark Theater are Feb. 24 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 27 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets and subscriptions are available at 866-OPERA-VA or at [www.vaopera.org](http://www.vaopera.org).

For photos or more information, contact Stephen J. Baker, Public Relations Manager, at 757-627-9545 ext. 3323, or via e-mail at [press@vaopera.com](mailto:press@vaopera.com).

## TAX ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The South Hampton Roads Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition (SHREITC) is seeking volunteers for a special program that provides free income tax-preparation assistance for qualifying residents.

Volunteers are needed to help eligible families and individuals prepare and file federal income tax returns, greet and screen taxpayers, or assist with childcare in various Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites throughout South Hampton Roads.

Hours are flexible. No previous experience is required for income tax preparation but volunteers must be certified. The IRS is sponsoring several training sessions throughout January. Please call (757) 213-3953 for more information or to register.

**The South Hampton Roads EITC Coalition** strives to provide quality volunteer tax services to eligible citizens in South Hampton Roads, while seeking to educate, inform and communicate the value of the Earned Income Tax Credit and financial literacy. EITC is a special credit for lower income workers which may reduce their federal tax liability and result in a bigger refund; as much as \$4,400 if their household income is less than \$35,263. The coalition offers electronic filing, the quickest, safest and most accurate way to file your taxes. [www.shreitc.com](http://www.shreitc.com)

## THINGS TO SEE AND DO

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### ADMIRALS HOCKEY

**Join the Admirals March 17 for Military Appreciation Night.**

Special **\$7 tickets** may be purchased through the Admirals front office in advance. To book you're group it's as easy as 1-2-3! Simply:

1. Gather a group of friends, family or co-workers;
2. Call the Admirals front office (640-1212) with a head count seven days in advance, a **\$1 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit** is required per ticket within 72 hours of booking;
3. Your final head count and tickets will be ready to purchase and pick up by March 15

Then enjoy your evening at Scope! We hope you will join us for this wonderful occasion. For more information please feel free to contact Anne at 640-1212 x14.

## **ARTS COMMISSION**

### **Arts Within Reach—it's all FREE!**

*Arts Within Reach* features **FREE** performances, workshops, and demonstrations in neighborhoods throughout the City. Get to know local artists while you enjoy their talent and creativity in a relaxed atmosphere. For more information, visit [www.norfolkdevelopment.com](http://www.norfolkdevelopment.com) or call **664-4321**.

## **MARCH**

**5 (Sun.) 2:30 pm — Chorale Showcase at Selden Arcade.** Bellissima! And Boys Choir of Hampton Roads present diverse and magnificent chorale music, in a setting that delivers beautifully. *Selden Arcade, 208 E. Main Street.*

**23 (Thurs.) 11:30 am — Virginia Symphony Chamber Ensemble.** Virginia Symphony players present classical music of beauty and intrigue. *Mount Zion Baptist Church, 900 Middlesex Street.*

**25 (Sat) 4 pm— The USAF Sonic Boom Percussion Ensemble.** From Colonial-style drumming to ragtime- era xylophone and contemporary American and international pieces, this ensemble celebrates America's great cultural diversity. *The Selden Arcade, 208 E. Main Street*

## **APRIL**

**11 (Tues.) 11:30 am — Virginia Symphony Chamber Ensemble.** Virginia Symphony players perform music to delight and inspire. *Bank Street Memorial Baptist Church, 7036 Chesapeake Blvd.*

**25 (Tues.) 10 am — Young Audiences of Virginia's Ramzi & Co., World Dance.** Dance is the focal point in this celebration of world cultures. *Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 155 W. Government Ave.*

**27 (Thurs.) 11:30 a.m. Young Audiences of Virginia's Tessitura the Opera Clown.** Toni Crowder brings the great operas to life and introduces the concepts that make this art form dramatically entertaining. *Mount Zion Baptist Church, 900 Middlesex Street.*

## **MAY**

**6 (Sat.) - 1 pm** — The Park Place Child Life Center Spring Festival. Music and art programs. *Park Place Baptist Church, 430 West 31<sup>st</sup> Street.*

**20 (Sat.) 10 a m** — **22nd Annual Stockley Gardens Spring Arts Festival.** More than 100 artists show and sell their works at this popular festival. Music and kids activities are scheduled throughout the festival, which continues on Sunday. *Stockley Gardens Park in the Ghent Section of Norfolk. [www.hope-house.org](http://www.hope-house.org)*

**24 (Weds.) 5:30 pm** — Young Audiences of Virginia's **The American Jazz Ensemble** incorporates blues, ragtime, boogie, Dixieland, Latin and classical music. *The Pagoda Garden Teahouse and Gallery, 265 W. Tazewell Street.*

**25 (Thurs.) 11:30 am** — **Virginia Arts Festival Emerging Masters.** This is your chance to hear world-class classical music in a lovely, local setting. *Mount Zion Baptist Church, 900 Middlesex Street.*

**Date To Be Announced.** A Virginia Symphony Ensemble in a special weekday evening concert. *The Pagoda Garden Teahouse and Gallery, 265 W. Tazewell Street.*

## **JUNE**

**22 (Thurs.) 11:30 am** — **Hampton Roads Chamber Players Faculty.** Classical string trio with symphony musicians Jorge Aguirre (violin), Beverly Baker (viola) and more in concert. *Mount Zion Baptist Church, 900 Middlesex St.*

Other free programs include:

### **d'ART Center's d'ART Demos.**

1-3 pm Saturdays. d'ART Center presents local artists in interactive arts demonstrations and workshops. *Selden Arcade, 208 E. Main Street. 625-4211*

### **Tidewater Friends of Folk Music**

#### **Jelly Bean Jam Series**

*Van Wyck Library, 1368 DeBree Ave., 2—3 pm 441-2844*

3/4—Celtic Dance w/Lisa Hunt

4/1—Connie Ralston-Roberts

*Larchmont Library, 6525 Hampton Blvd., 3-4 pm 441-5335*

3/11—Ron Fetner

4/8—The M&Ms

*Little Creek Library, 7853 Tarpon Pl., 2 –3 pm 441-1751*

3/18—The M&Ms

4/15—Ron Fetner

*Janaf Library, 124 Janaf Shopping Center, 2 –3 pm, 441-5660*

3/25—Connie Ralston-Roberts

4/22—Celtic Dance w/Lisa Hunt

**A Little Day Music Concert Series** *Hofheimer Theater, Virginia Wesleyan College. 455-2101*

4/11 11 am—Ana Vidovic offers a classical guitar master class, open to all for observation.

## **ATTUCKS THEATRE**

❖ **An Evening of Dance Featuring:** Todd Rosenlieb Dance  
Philip Deal Dance Project Second Wind Dance Company  
Saturday March 25, 8:00 p.m.

Tickets on sale NOW

Ticket Prices:

\$20.00 (adults) \$10.00 (students)

*(plus applicable service charges and facility fees)*

Purchase tickets at the Scope Box office and area Ticketmaster outlets. Charge-by-phone at 757.671.8100 or online at ticketmaster.com. Tickets will be available at the door one hour prior to the event.

❖ **COLOR ME DARK**  
**A story of the Great Migration North**

In 1919, amidst fierce racial tensions in the rural south, a young African-American girl moves with her family from Tennessee to Chicago. Though life in this northern city is new and exciting, the two sisters discover that racism knows no boundaries.

**Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Tickets on sale NOW**

**Ticket Prices:**

**\$15.00** (adults) **\$8.00** (students)

*(plus applicable service charges and facility fees)*

Purchase tickets at the Scope Box office and area Ticketmaster outlets. Charge-by-phone at 757.671.8100 or online at ticketmaster.com. Tickets will be available at the door one hour prior to the event.

## **BOTANICAL GARDEN**

### **Norfolk Botanical Garden to Host “Around the World in 80 Days” This Summer.**

For the last two years, Norfolk Botanical Garden has hosted a popular exhibit built around privately designed and constructed interactive “destinations” around the garden. In 2004, it was TREEmendous TREEhouses. In 2005, it was Treasure Island.

Both major regional exhibits featured unique and creative, non-traditional, family interactive destinations within the Garden. The introduction of these exhibits doubled the Garden’s visitation, bringing people of all ages to enjoy the Garden’s 155 acres.

In 2006, the Garden would like to continue this success by bringing to life another classic novel. “Around the World in 80 Days“, an interactive exhibition featuring themed displays that focus on modes of transportation used throughout the book. Regularly scheduled activities will be planned at each exhibit area.

The Garden’s education department will develop these activities, inspired by each individual design and intended to enhance the visitor’s experience. All exhibit areas will be designed to stimulate the imaginations of children of all ages and encourage playful interaction. Around the World in 80 Days is being designed to attract families to the Garden in anticipation of the World of Wonders: A Children’s Adventure Garden, opening in the Fall of 2006, shortly after the summer exhibit’s closing. As with Treemendous Treehouses and Treasure Island, the Garden solicited designs. The timeline for construction and the exhibit is as follows:

**March 15, 2005**

Winning designs will be posted on the NBG website.

**May 16 – June 5, 2006** Exhibit installed at Norfolk Botanical Garden

**June 17, 2006** Designer/Sponsor/VIP Breakfast & Exhibit Grand Opening Weekend

**September 4, 2006** Exhibit Closes

**September 5-10, 2006** Removal of structures by designers

[events@nbgs.org](mailto:events@nbgs.org)

### **Birds, Blossoms and Blues Festival**

Mother's Day Weekend, May 11-14, 2006

For the first time, Norfolk Botanical Garden combines one of Virginia's premier birding events with great blues, bluegrass and a unique plant sale—all amid spring's spectacular blossoms.

## **CHRYSLER HALL**

### **CHICAGO**

**"Is everybody here....is everybody ready!"...**

### **FOR THE NATIONAL TOUR OF BROADWAY'S BIGGEST SMASH HIT MUSICAL COMING TO NORFOLK**

CHICAGO continues to "razzle- dazzle" audiences since it opened to rave reviews at the National Theatre in Washington D.C. The Washington Post called it "Stylish and Bold! What you see is what you so gloriously get." WRC TV entertainment reporter, Arch Campbell said "CHICAGO is one of this year's great delights! The cast blows the roof off the joint!" "A killer production." said Rohan Preston of the Star Tribune and Leslie Katz of the San Francisco Examiner proclaims CHICAGO is "smart, sassy and riveting!" Tickets on sale NOW!

Produced by Tony Award winners, Barry and Fran Weissler and under the Tony Award winning direction of Walter Bobbie and spotlighting the Tony Award winning choreography by Ann Reinking in the style of the legendary Bob Fosse and re-created by Gary Chryst, CHICAGO features the "razzle-dazzle" music and lyrics of master Broadway multi-award winning composers John Kander and Fred Ebb, with book by Mr. Ebb and Bob Fosse.



CHICAGO, winner of 6 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival and a Grammy Award for its cast recording, has the distinction of being Broadway's longest running revival, still SRO is beginning its 9<sup>th</sup> year at the Ambassador Theatre in New York. Its story of two real life murderesses and a lawyer who turns them into media celebrities is a page right out of today's newspapers.

The immense worldwide success of CHICAGO spawned the Academy Award winning film version. But, seeing it live is an experience you will never forget. The jazz, the style, the music, and the dancing all add up to an experience that will exhilarate. CHICAGO is a production not to be missed. And all the reviewers agree. Time Magazine calls it "A Triumph," Newsweek raves "Smashing" and Entertainment Weekly sums it up by calling CHICAGO "Broadway's Most Electrifying Show."

The show plays at Chrysler Hall in Norfolk on Tuesday, April 4 – Friday, April 7 at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 8 at 2:00 p.m and 8:00 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$46.25 - \$60.75 and are available at The Scope Box Office, all Ticketmaster locations, on the internet at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com), or charge by phone 757-671-8100. For groups (20 or more) call 1-888-500-2929.

**Verizon Presents:**

***If This Hat Could Talk***

**Starring: Stephanie Mills**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8:00pm**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8:00pm**

**March 4<sup>th</sup> – 3:00pm & 8:00pm**

A Presentation of **Baci Management, Inc.**

"Verizon Presents: If This Hat Could Talk" starring Grammy-Award Winning recording artist Stephanie Mills as the incomparable Dorothy Height. Also starring Joe Coleman lead vocalist of The Platters and Broadway star Ebony Jo-Ann in a foot stomping, hand-clapping, exhilarating musical journey. Come and witness a musical of passion, a story of power and a celebration of triumph.

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

Ticket prices: \$21.25-\$26.25

Tickets can be purchased at the Scope Box office and area Ticketmaster outlets. Charge-by-phone at 757.671.8100 or [online at ticketmaster.com](http://online.ticketmaster.com).

Groups of 15 or more contact De'Laine Goodman at [Delaine.goodman@norfolk.gov](mailto:Delaine.goodman@norfolk.gov)

**VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO**

**Friday April 28 – Sunday April 30**  
**Norfolk Scope**

Over 800 artists from around the world will storm Scope during the 2006 Virginia International Tattoo. With live music, Celtic dancers, choral groups, marching bands, precision drill teams and more massed pipes and drums than ever before, the Tattoo is action-packed and awe-inspiring for all ages. Enjoy a tribute to Canada, the Azalea Festival's Most Honored Nation and join our hats off salute to the region's Armed Forces as we honor their families, those who stay behind to serve. You have to see it to believe it!

**Tickets on sale now!**

**Ticket Prices:** - \$45, \$40, \$30, \$20  
*(plus applicable service charges and facility fees)*

The Norfolk Scope is one of Norfolk's premier seven venues and is the host to a wide variety of events. With a capacity of 13,500, the Norfolk Scope provides visitors with the highest quality events, services and facilities. For information on the Norfolk Scope or the city's other venues, visit [www.sevenvenues.com](http://www.sevenvenues.com)

**CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART**

**SENIORS ART FORUM**

The Seniors Art Forum is a senior citizens group that meets at 2 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month for a tour, discussion, and light refreshments. No reservations are necessary for individuals, but please call (757) 333-6268 for group reservations. Cost: included with Museum admission.

**CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS:**

*Old Master Paintings from the Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Saunders, III*  
Kaufaman Furniture Gallery  
Ongoing

*Photography Speaks*  
Alice R. and Sol B. Frank and David L. Hack Photography Galleries  
Ongoing

***Civil War Photographs from the David L. Hack Collection***

Alice R. and Sol B. Frank Photography Galleries

This exhibit features 50 extraordinary photographs from the Chrysler's collection, including such icons as Alexander Gardner's classic photograph *Lincoln and Tad*, haunting images of Andersonville and Gardner's dramatic series of the handing of the Lincoln conspirators in 1865.

Through October 29, 2006

**\* Exhibition Programming\***

Seniors Art Forum: Saturday, March 4, 2 p.m. Join other seniors for a lecture and discussion of the exhibition.

Lecture Series: Selected Wednesdays throughout the exhibition, 7-8 p.m.

- March 8: Images through a Pinhole-A 30-Year Overview featuring *Civil War Redux: Pinhole Photographs* by artist Willie Anne Wright
- April 19: The Best Photos on the Civil War in 3-D with Bob Zeller, President of the Center for Civil War Photography
- May 10: Waging the War on Saving the Past: The David L. Hack Collection of Civil War Photographs with Thomas M. Edmondson, Heugh-Edmondson Conservation Services, Kansas City, Missouri
- July 19: No Army Without Music: The Songs of the Civil War featuring Michael Lasser, host of the National Public Radio show *Fascination' Rhythm*
- September 27: Depicting Conflict: Art of the Civil War with Stephen May, independent historian and noted art, culture and historic preservation lecturer.

Tickle My Ears Storytelling: Thursday, May 4, 2006, 11 a.m. Experience the Civil War with your favorite pre-kindergartener during this interactive storytelling.

Military Appreciation Day: Saturday, May 20, 1-3 p.m. Join us for patriotic music and special tours of *Civil War Photographs*. Cost: Free to active duty/retired military and families with valid ID.

Film Series: Ken Burns' *The Civil War* (1990) Selected Saturdays throughout the exhibition, Enjoy Ken Burns' *The Civil War*, renowned video history of the war.

The Masterpiece Society presents

***Masterpieces from an English Country House: The Fitzwilliam Collection***

Norfolk Southern Large Changing Galleries

April 28 through August 13, 2006

## d'ART CENTER

**d'ART Center, Selden Arcade 208 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510**

ph: 757-625-4211 fax: 757-625-0670

Connect with the Visual Arts at [www.d-artcenter.org](http://www.d-artcenter.org)

*The d'ART CENTER is a regional, private, non-profit, visual art facility featuring 40 resident visual artists creating, displaying and selling original fine art. Our special events support the center's mission of connecting the public with the visual arts process.*

### **Masks: To Reveal and Conceal A Multimedia Invitational Exhibit**

March 3 - April 16, 2006

Opening Reception

Friday, March 3, 2006 5 - 8 PM

***Come explore the magic of the MASK; its possibilities of transformation, mystery and revelation as a timeless and universal image.***

With a rich tradition throughout the history of art, the mask has been represented as a power that can be symbolic, allegorical, cultural and/or psychological. Artists are encouraged to work in any medium, using design principles, techniques, content and perspectives of choice.

d'ART Center artist and renown mask-maker Linda Gissen is curating the exhibit. Her objective is to make the show as interestingly diverse, stimulating and provocative as the image will allow.

The MASK! S opening reception, on Friday, March 3rd from 5-8PM, will feature the hot jazz of **JuJu and the After Hours Band** and is part of the "ARTS After 5" series. This event is FREE to the Public.

**Sunday, March 5 at 2:00PM** Linda Gissen will hold a Gallery Talk on the Mask Exhibition, which is Free to the public.

### **BIRTHDAY PARTIES!**

Having a birthday party, and need a cool activity for your guests? Call d'ART Center to arrange a private class for you and your friends for your big day and make your celebration an art occasion to member! We will suggest both artist and artistic activity that you can remember and enjoy all year. For children and adults.



Call 625.4211 for scheduling and arrangements.

## FESTEVENTS

### St. Patrick's Day Downtown Party Returns to the Selden Arcade after 24 years

*“ ‘The test of a real city is whether it can throw a good St. Patrick's Day’, said James B. Lonegran, a lawyer formerly of New York.... Norfolk has arrived as a true urban center’ ”* reported the Virginian Pilot, March 18, 1983, the day after The St. Patrick's Day Downtown Party- the first event produced by the newly organized Norfolk Festevents that took place in the Selden Arcade.

24 years later, Norfolk Festevents returns to the site of its *first* official event, the **Selden Arcade**- newly renovated and recently reopened for business, to kick off its new 2006 season of city celebrations with the return of an old familiar friend- **The St. Patrick's Day Downtown Party**.

The **Selden Arcade** located on Main Street in downtown Norfolk, the City's Cultural Art Center and home of d'Art will be transformed into a dazzling **Emerald Hall**, Friday, March 17, 2006, 5 pm – 8 pm, with live entertainment by the **Tidewater Pipes and Drums, Bob Zentz and The Celtic Opry, and the Rhythm of Ireland Step Dancers**. The event is free and open to the public.

The public is invited to participate in the **Grand Season Opening Ceremony at 5:30 pm lead by Norfolk Mayor Paul D. Fraim**. The first 500 attendees will receive commemorative St. Patrick's Day souvenirs.

“We have certainly been blessed with the “Luck of the Irish” since our early years in the form of strong support and friendship from the City of Norfolk, generous sponsors and from the community,” said Karen Scherberger, Executive Director of Norfolk Festevents since its inception in 1982.

In partnership with the City of Norfolk, the St. Patrick's Day Party is sponsored by Cingular Wireless, WWDE, 94.9 the Point and produced by Norfolk Festevents, Ltd.

For more information about events, including hours, ticket information, park regulations, parking and surrounding attractions, can be found by visiting the [www.festeventsva.org](http://www.festeventsva.org) or by calling 757.441.2345.

### NORFOLK'S MOST FOOLISH TRADITION, THE DOO DAH PARADE, RETURNS!

After a seven year hiatus, Norfolk's most foolish tradition, the Occasional Downtown Doo Dah Parade returns to Main Street at noon on Friday, March 31st. Just in time for April Fools' Day, the Downtown Doo Dah Parade has long been a source of escape from cabin fever and has brought out the zaniest of people to celebrate in this noontime nonsense parade.

Feelin' foolish? Then we're looking for you! Residents, business professionals and organization members are encouraged to rally their friends and co-workers and form silly, wacky, hilarious parade units, brigades and drill teams to take part in Norfolk's craziest hour. Parade unit applications are available at Norfolk's Office of Cultural Affairs (inside of Selden Arcade), Norfolk Scope, the Festevents office at 120 W. Main Street, City Hall, and Norfolk Convention & Visitor's Bureau's downtown office located on Main Street. Completed forms should be returned to Norfolk's Office of Cultural Affairs with a \$15 non-refundable entry fee no later than 5 pm on Friday, March 10. All entries will be reviewed and are subject to approval by the Fools Committee.

Judged on originality by a panel of local celebrity fools (er, folks) all entries compete for the coveted Fools' Cup in either the commercial/business or non-commercial division. The awards ceremony will be held immediately following the parade inside of Selden Arcade and will be emceed by Parade Grand Marshall and self proclaimed Doo Dah Grand Poo Bah, Sydney Meers, former owner and creator of the Dumbwaiter Restaurant in downtown Norfolk.

Presented by Norfolk's Office of Cultural Affairs and Norfolk Festevents, the Downtown Doo Dah is patterned after the infamous Doo Dah Parade in Pasadena, California, a November free-for-all that parodies the prestigious Rose Bowl Parade. Norfolk's earlier renditions have attracted more than 5,000 spectators and participants.

## **BAYOU BOOGALOO & CAJUN FOOD FESTIVAL FESTIVAL TO SUPPORT ON- GOING KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS**

Bayou Boogaloo classics The Neville Brothers, Dr. John and Cowboy Mouth return to headline the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Cingular Wireless Bayou Boogaloo & Cajun Food Festival, June 23- 25, 2006, Town Point Park in Downtown Norfolk, Virginia.

This year's festival will also host several artists and craftsman displaced by Hurricane Katrina and include fundraising opportunities to benefit the Katrina relief efforts.

The Neville Brothers: Art, Charles, Aaron and Cyril Neville have been performing and recording since 1978, collectively sharing over 40 years of recording history. The Neville's unique mix of R&B, Pop, Jazz and Funk is what makes them the first family of funk in New Orleans. The Neville Brothers are scheduled to perform Sunday, June 25 at 6:30 pm. <http://www.nevilles.com>

Dr. John is a Grammy award-winning performer who proudly stands along side Louis Armstrong, Fats Domino and Professor Longhair as one of New Orleans' all-time distinctive voices. The good Dr.'s music is a blend of Dixieland, Rock & Roll and Funk that truly represents the New Orleans' sound. His infectious style has drawn attention from Eric Clapton, Mick Jagger, The Band, Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Mike Bloomfield, Benne Wallace and Art Blakey who either wanted to guest on his records or invited him to spice

up their own work. Dr. John is set to take the stage on Sunday, June 25 at 4 pm.

<http://www.drjohn.org>

Cowboy Mouth returns to perform pure New Orleans Rock n' Roll in Town Point Park, Friday, June 23 at 8:30 pm. At nearly 200 performances a year over fourteen years, the band asks the audiences each and every time "Are you glad to be Alive!?" and the only answer Cowboy Mouth wants to hear is "YES!" The band onstage is extraordinarily intense, with vocal and style changes between members that keep audiences glued, usually leaving them as drenched and spent as the band. <http://www.cowboymouth.com>

Additional acts to be announced.

The Bayou Boogaloo and Cajun Food Festival is Norfolk's annual salute to the New Orleans spirit and unique Bayou culture. This popular 3-day festival sizzles with foot stomping, heart pumping music on 3 stages featuring national, regional and local talent. This colorful celebration of Bayou culture is filled with family activities - Cajun dance lessons; a New Orleans' style funeral march; cooking demonstrations; fire-eaters; hot pepper and crawfish eating contests all add to a weekend full of non stop entertainment.

No Bayou party would be complete without mouthwatering Cajun delicacies prepared by authentic Louisiana chefs including crawfish, jambalaya, gumbo, etoufee, alligator, sausages, and beignets and ice cold beverages-- it is truly the hottest weekend on the riverfront!

More information about events, including hours, ticket information, park regulations, parking and surrounding attractions, can be found by visiting the [www.festeventsva.org](http://www.festeventsva.org) or by calling 757.441.2345.

*All events are produced by Norfolk Festevents. Cingular Wireless and the City of Norfolk are proud sponsors of the 2006 Season, with support from over 300 local, regional and national sponsors and contributors.*

Norfolk Festevents, Ltd. is a private not-for-profit organization dedicated to producing premier concerts, festivals, ship visits, special events and city celebrations for the residents and guests of Hampton Roads. Celebrating its' 24<sup>th</sup> season, Norfolk Festevents has garnered international acclaim for its outstanding quality of programming. Norfolk Festevents is the official event marketing and production agency for the City of Norfolk.

## **FIVE POINTS COMMUNITY FARM MARKET**

### **WINTER SCHEDULE - SATURDAYS ONLY**

**9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Five Points Community Farm Market  
Indoors - 1132 Norview Avenue - Norfolk



Farm Market 853-0300

<http://groups.hamptonroads.com/5PointsFarmMarket>

## **GHENT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

### **12th Annual Greening of Ghent Street Party**

**Friday, March 17, 2006 ~ 6 – 10pm**

**Colley Avenue in Ghent ~ FREE**

The Ghent Business Association (GBA) invites you to celebrate the luck of the Irish at the 12th Annual GREENING OF GHENT Block Party on Friday, March 17, 2006 from 6-10 pm, on Colley Avenue in Ghent. The St.Patrick's Day celebration is free and open to the public.

Keeping the tradition alive, the Ghent Business Association rolls into its season with its annual kickoff of St.Patrick's Day. 'Tis the luck of the Irish we'll be sharin' on Colley Avenue as the Ghent Business Association welcomes all their neighbors to the party of the year, the Greening of Ghent.

Come out and enjoy live music from Rylo, and watch the Tidewater Pipe and Drums kick off the festivities. The celebration continues into the "wee" hours of the night at Ghent's popular restaurants and nightspots.

Continuing the annual tradition, the Ghent Business Association encourages folks to come out and enjoy the sounds and festivities in a safe environment. "In keeping with our purpose and our tradition, this being our 12th year, The Ghent Business Association is proud to provide an event that encourages neighbors and the business community to come together to celebrate and have fun," said Jim O'Brien, president of the GBA. "Happy St. Patrick's Day and may the luck of the Irish be with us all."

## **HERMITAGE FOUNDATION MUSEUM**

### **The Hermitage Foundation Throws a Vintage Gala: *The Event of 2006***

On Saturday, March 11, 2006, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m., The Hermitage Foundation will host a vintage black-tie affair, taking guests back to 1937, the year Florence and William Sloane opened their home as a museum for the public. *The Event of 2006* will feature live music from the Charles Darden Trio, a well-stocked bar with popular mid-30's period drinks, buffet offerings, and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Tickets to the event are limited to 75 couples and are on sale to Hermitage members for \$150 per couple and to non-members for \$175 per couple through the Hermitage Development office.

The gala will take place both inside and outside the museum, providing plenty of space for couples to dance all night a la Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers to Charles



Darden's trio of jazz musicians. Darden's acclaimed group has performed at numerous benefits and soirees, including President Bush's 2001 inauguration.

New Leaf Floral in Norfolk will be assisting with the provision of boutonnieres and corsages for guests. The open bar will specialize in highballs, martinis and other popular drinks of the age, while local caterers will give a taste of the '30's through a variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres and buffet items. Couples can capture the evening through black and white photographs with vintage cars and recall the era through trivia cards, providing 1937 facts about art, the nation, local news, and The Hermitage Foundation.

Executive Director, Melanie Mathewes hopes that people will get in the spirit of a vintage party. "I can't think of a soul not entertained by the thought of stepping backing in time, even if only for an evening. Careful research has gone into planning *The Event*. The menu, the bar, and the music have been given special attention. The stage is set, but what to wear? Vintage black-tie. For those needing a fashion refresher for the 30's there is a wonderful resource at the Naro Expanded Cinema in Ghent – they have an entire shelf devoted to the era. By participating in this fabulous fundraiser every guest will help the Hermitage make a bit more history."

In celebration of the opening of the museum, five of the galleries in the Hermitage will be open throughout the evening, including the upstairs Changing Galleries which host *Mend Our Broken Art*. This exhibit, featuring an array of significant artwork from the Sloane Collection, focuses on the art of conservation and offers the opportunity for patrons to sponsor the conservation of artworks. Among other pieces included in the exhibit are Ancient Egyptian bronzes from the 26<sup>th</sup> Dynasty, 12<sup>th</sup> century Persian pottery, 5<sup>th</sup> century Coptic tapestries, 17<sup>th</sup> century Spanish chairs and a collection of paintings from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

*The Event of 2006* supports the mission of The Hermitage Foundation, a private, non-profit organization, dedicated to the promotion of arts and culture through education, exhibitions, and events for the community. Tickets are \$150 per couple for The Hermitage Foundation members and \$175 per couple for non-members. Reservations can be made by calling the Development Office at 757.423.2052 x 205.

### **Hermitage Opens Exhibit of Sloane Collection Artworks in Need of Conservation** *Mend Our Broken Art Offers Opportunity for Artwork Sponsorship*

*Mend Our Broken Art*, an exhibition of works from the Sloane Collection will be on display in the Changing Galleries of The Hermitage Foundation Museum February 9 – March 31. The artwork featured in this exhibition is in need of immediate conservation and is offered to the public for adoption. Adopting a piece from the exhibition offers the rare opportunity for art patrons to meet conservators and intimately be a part of the process of conservation from beginning to end. The public is invited to attend an opening reception on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 p.m. to view the artworks and learn more about how to sponsor their conservation.

Featuring pieces ranging from 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. to early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the exhibition focuses on significant paintings, furniture, textiles, and objects from the Sloane Collection, the permanent collection of The Hermitage Foundation. Sponsorship of art pieces is open to individuals or organizations and ranges from several hundreds of dollars to several thousands of dollars. Some pieces need minimal efforts, such as cleaning and minor structural repair while others need more extensive conservation work to repair damaged surfaces of paintings, textiles, bronzes, and upholstery.

Conservation is integral to the preservation of all artworks, ancient and modern. The Hermitage will rely on the expertise of four conservators—Amy Fernandez (objects), Susan Adler (textiles), Mark Lewis (paintings), and Jennifer Zemanek (upholstery)—whose conservation work is recognized throughout the local and national museum community.

“The relationship between artist and conservator is very intimate. Those who perform the demanding work of restoring a painting or re-stitching a tapestry must have a deep love of art and history. We are happy to work with so many talented and dedicated conservators and think this is a great opportunity for the public to become intimately involved. This show also supports our mission at the Hermitage of preserving the incredible pieces of art that the Sloanes collected,” says Curator of the Collection, Kristin Law.

Florence and William Sloane’s art collection spans 5,000 years and includes rare Coptic textiles and bronzes, Indian Chola bronze statues, Spanish icons and furniture, American Impressionist paintings and sculptures, Asian rugs, and ritual bronzes and ceramic tomb figures from China.

A few notable pieces slated for conservation include:

### **Paintings**

“Marguerite in Church,” a late 19<sup>th</sup> century painting by Jean Jacques Tissot

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century Sloane family portraits by Douglas Volk

“Cave of the Storm Nymphs” painted in 1902 by Sir E.J. Poynter, RA, former president of the Royal Academy and director of the National Gallery of London

### **Furniture**

A set of four 18<sup>th</sup> century Cromwellian chairs with leather seats and backs, turned legs, and stretchers

### **Textiles**

Seven Coptic tapestries from 300 – 600 A.D.

17<sup>th</sup> century English Stumpwork depicting Charles I and Henrietta

### **Objects**

Coptic bronze Hawk Sarcophagus

Mandarin Kingfisher ceremonial headdresses  
13<sup>th</sup> century Persian ceramics  
5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Chinese ceramic Hill Jar

Adoption prices range from \$250 for works in need of minimal cleaning to over \$4000 for more extensive work, including the conserving and re-housing of a six foot Coptic Tapestry that has thousands of years of environmental damage. Information about the pieces and how to sponsor their conservation is available throughout the exhibition or by contacting the Hermitage at 757-423-2052. For questions regarding exhibition pieces, contact Curator of Collections, Kristin Law; for information about exhibition sponsorship, contact Assistant to the Director of Administration and Development, Karen Perry.

## **HURRAH PLAYERS**

### *Schedule*

- Dr. Seuss' *Seussical... the Musical* runs weekends March 17-26 2006.
- The musical *Snow White Goes West* May 19-21.
- Closing the season will be *Shagging on the Beach*, a brand new beach musical revue running July 28-30.

For tickets and info call 627-5437 or Ticketmaster 671-8100. Or visit our web site [www.hurrahplayers.com](http://www.hurrahplayers.com)

Hurrah Players also offers theatre classes for ages 5 - Adult through the year and camps in the summer.

## **LANG LANG PIANO RECITAL**

**Lang Lang Piano Recital**  
**Thursday, April 20, 7:30 PM**

Living up to his name, which translates as 'very brilliant', 23 year-old international sensation Lang Lang is one of the most exciting and charismatic artists of our time. His artistry is undeniable; his ability to connect with audiences, renowned.

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

Ticket prices: \$20-\$50 (plus applicable service charges)

Tickets can be purchased at the Scope Box office and area Ticketmaster outlets.

Charge-by-phone at 757.671.8100 or [online at ticketmaster.com](http://online.ticketmaster.com).

Discounts for Students, Seniors & Military

For groups of 15 or more call 757-282-2819 for information

## **LIBRARIES**

### **Pretlow Library Demolition Set for March 8.**

Join Mayor Paul Fraim and City Council as Norfolk celebrates the revitalization of our library when we demolish the old Pretlow Branch for the construction of the Mary D. Pretlow Anchor Branch, Wednesday, March 8, 2006, *11:00 a.m.*, at the site of the old Pretlow Branch 9640 Granby Street in Ocean View.

### **The MacArthur Memorial and the Kirn Memorial Library to Host World War I Film Discussion**

The MacArthur Memorial and the Kirn Memorial Library will host a free six-part film viewing and discussion series called “The World War I Years: America Becomes a World Power”. The Discussions will be led by former Congressman Dr. G. William Whitehurst.

“The World War I Years” explores the political and social history of the United States in the early 20th century. All programs will be held at the Theatre of the MacArthur Memorial in downtown Norfolk at 3:00 p.m. Visitor parking is located in the South Parking Garage of the MacArthur Center off City Hall Avenue, directly across the street from the library and the Memorial.

Films will be discussed once per week at the theatre. These films are:

- |                   |                                                                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, March 12: | The American People in Wartime: One Woman, One Vote (The American Experience) |
| Sunday, March 19: | Peace Making<br>Wilson (The American Experience Part II)                      |
| Sunday, March 26: | After the War – The Turbulent Years                                           |

Return to Isolationism (Between the Wars)  
Lost Peace: Ideals for a United World Fail (People's Century)

Dr. Whitehurst served as 2nd District U.S. House of Representatives from 1968-1987 and teaches history at Old Dominion University as the Kaufman Lecturer in Public Affairs. The MacArthur Memorial is located at the corner of City Hall Avenue and Bank Street, opposite the library. The Memorial's phone number is (757) 441-2965. The Kirn Memorial Library is located at 301 City Hall Avenue. The Library's phone number is (757) 664-READ.

## **MACARTHUR MEMORIAL**

### **New Special Exhibit Features Selections From The Macarthur Memorial's Extensive Collection Of World War I And World War II Posters**

One of the most powerful and popular communication tools used during World War I and World War II was the poster. By combining advertising and art, private organizations, government agencies and businesses were able to create posters that embraced the American spirit. Images and slogans were designed to evoke a deep sense of family devotion, loyalty to country, traditional values and fear. They called upon every American to wholeheartedly support the war.

*America Calls: Poster Art of World War I and World War II* features original World War I and World War II posters from the United States, Great Britain, Canada and France that depict the different facets of propaganda used during the era. John Montgomery Flagg, Norman Rockwell and Howard Chandler Christy are among the many well-known artists whose works are exhibited.

In the time before television and radio were found in every home, posters were the most commonly used form of advertising. During times of war, posters were found on nearly every storefront, window and fence. The messages they carried varied from military recruiting efforts to promoting the sale of war bonds to urging conservation of food and other supplies needed for the war effort. The number of posters produced during the World Wars in the United States alone is estimated to be in the millions and in thousands of different designs. While some of the most well-known posters were produced by the U.S. government, businesses such as General Motors also produced patriotic posters for use in its factories to boost employee morale.

Because of the sheer numbers of posters produced during the World Wars, they were popular souvenirs for soldiers and civilians alike, and they remain popular items with militaria collectors as well as art collectors today. Some posters, such as Norman

Rockwell's popular *Four Freedoms* series and John Montgomery Flagg's Uncle Sam images, are quite valuable on the collector's market. However, because posters were mostly mass produced, in some cases on inferior paper, they are quite fragile and difficult to find in excellent condition.

The MacArthur Memorial has approximately 450 war posters in its collection, many of which were purchased by the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation in 1974 from noted poster collector Paul Keith. Other posters in the museum's holdings come from a variety of sources, including MacArthur admirers, soldiers who fought under his command, and an interesting collection given to the Memorial by the Larchmont Branch of the Norfolk Public Library.

*America Calls* is a colorful and patriotic exhibit that reflects a nation's struggle for freedom.

The MacArthur Memorial is open Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. The museum is closed New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Admission is free.

## **New Exhibit at The Macarthur Memorial Commemorates The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of The Liberation Of Civilian Internment Camps In The Philippines During World War II**

More than 60 years ago, over 5,000 civilian men, women and children were imprisoned in internment camps following Japan's occupation of the Philippines during World War II. A three-year struggle for survival ensued as these internees endured crowded living conditions, disease, limited medical supplies, heavy labor, tension, uncertainty, and near starvation.

On April 23, 2005, the MacArthur Memorial opened a special exhibit in honor of the internees, and the soldiers and civilians who saved them. The exhibition, which will be on display through February 28, 2006, examines the Philippines before the Japanese invasion and what characterized life for both the native Filipinos and the foreign-born residents. Focusing on the three major internment camps, Santo Tomás, Los Baños and Baguio, the exhibition offers insight into the internees' initial contact with their captors and their daily lives during confinement. While some succumbed to death, others with the help of the Filipino civilians and their own sheer will were able to survive until their eventual liberation in February of 1945.

## **NAUTICUS**

### **1st ANNUAL MATE ROV MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL COMPETITION**

The National Maritime Center and the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary will be hosting the 1st annual MATE ROV Mid-Atlantic Regional Competition. This competition will

qualify two teams to move forward and represent our region at the national competition to be held at NASA Headquarters in Houston, June 2006. Teams from mid-Atlantic middle schools and high schools will compete in a series of missions using their specifically designed underwater ROV (remotely operated vehicle).

Help us broaden the skills of students in our area and support our local maritime industry by developing a strong future work force. We can use your support to help as a member of our planning committee, program and team mentor, technical expert, team sponsor and as a judge for the spring 2006 competition.

For more information please contact [Christine Arrasate](#) (Nauticus@ TNMC) 757-664-1019 or [Krista Trono](#) (Monitor, NMS) 757-591-7328.

### ***VOLUNTEER PROGRAM***

Are you interested in presenting science demonstrations or interpreting hands-on exhibits? If the answer is "yes," then Nauticus has an opportunity for you! We are interested in adults, college students and high school/home school students who are at least 14 years old and can commit to at least four hours one day a week. For more information about Nauticus' volunteer and intern program, please contact Jennifer Rosenberg at (757) 664-1043 or email [Jennifer Rosenberg](#). Visit our [Volunteer web page](#) to download a volunteer application.

### ***SCIENCE CAMPS***

Imagine a day of hands-on science activities! Your child will learn that science is involved with everything around us while performing cool experiments and creating awesome make-and-takes.

### ***SPRING BREAK SCIENCE CAMP 2006***

#### **Activities:**

*Wacky Weather* - dangerous weather, instruments, and preparedness.

*Ecosystems* - habitats, soil testing, and water quality.

#### **Dates:**

Monday, April 10th - 1st-3rd Grades: *Wacky Weather*

Tuesday, April 11th - 4th-6th Grades: *Wacky Weather*

Wednesday, April 12th - 1st-3rd Grades: *Ecosystems*

Thursday, April 13th - 4th-6th Grades: *Ecosystems*

#### **Time:**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

To register, Call (757) 664-1010. Registration deadlines: two weeks before your session. Cancellation deadlines: one week before your session. Register by March 10th and receive a \$5 gift shop coupon! [Download the registration application.](#)

## ***SUMMER SCIENCE CAMPS 2006***

### **General Science Camps**

Ages: Completed 1st-3rd Grades

Dates: June 26-30, 2006 and July 10-14, 2006

Times: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (regular) or 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (extended hours)

Price: \$120 Nauticus members; \$135 non-members; \$25 extra for extended care

Your child will enjoy a week of hands-on science activities at camp! This year's topics will include navigation, messy chemistry, beach ecology, fossils/rocks, and battleships. They will learn about different fields of science by performing experiments, making crafts, playing fun games, and interacting with guest speakers.

### **NEW! Day Camps for Girl Scouts**

#### **Session 1:**

Junior Girl Scout Finding Your Way Science Camp

Age: Bridging 3rd through 6th grades

Date: June 19-23, 2006

Time: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Price: \$120 Nauticus members; \$135 non-members

Earn a *Finding Your Way Badge* while participating in activities that will go towards earning other badges! Topics include navigation, messy chemistry, ecology, fossils, and rocks. Activities will include performing experiments, making crafts, playing fun games, and interacting with guest speakers.

#### **Session 2:**

Oceanography Camp

Age: Girl Scouts 11-17 (Completed 6th through 8th grades)

Date: August 7-11, 2006

Time: 8:30-5 p.m.

Price: \$200 Nauticus Members, \$225 Non-Members

Earn a *Studio 2B Making Waves Charm* while participating in hands-on activities that include a beach trip, conducting water quality analyses, boat trip on the Elizabeth River, behind-the-scenes tour, dissection, and even an overnight trip to a local state park. *Note: This will be a co-ed camp*

### **NEW! NOAA @ Nauticus Hurricane Watchers in the Chesapeake Bay Camp**

Age: 9-12 Year Olds



Date: July 17-21, 2006

Time: 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Price: \$185 Nauticus members; \$200 non-members

Storms are brewing in the Chesapeake Bay! Come explore how hurricanes can affect the whole Bay- the water levels, the chemistry, the geography, and most importantly, the ecosystems. Chase the storm down by learning how they form, what paths they will take, the devastation they cause, and how to be fully prepared through interactive science experiments, games, guest speakers, and even a boat trip on the Chesapeake Bay!

### **NEW! Kindergarten Science Camp**

Age: Completed Kindergarteners

Date: July 24-28, 2006

Time: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Price: \$75 Nauticus members; \$90 non-members

Have a blast learning about science at Nauticus Kindergarten Camp! This year's topics will include navigation, messy chemistry, beach ecology, fossils/rocks, and battleships. They will learn about different fields of science by performing experiments, making crafts, playing fun games, and interacting with guest speakers.

### **Oceanography Camp**

Ages: Completed 6th - 8th Grades

Dates: August 7-11, 2006

Times: 8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Price: \$200 Nauticus members; \$225 non-members

Join us for an intense week of Oceanography! Topics will include navigation, squid anatomy, aquatic ecosystems, water chemistry, and careers in oceanography. Your child will take an educational boat trip, learn to navigate using GPS and maps, dissect a squid, participate in a beach collection, interview an oceanographer, explore behind-the-scenes of our aquariums, go canoeing, and even spend the night at False Cape State Park!

To register, please call camp reservations at (757) 664-1010

## **NEIGHBORHOOD AND LEISURE SERVICES**

### **Oceanview Senior Center Activities**

#### **Regular Events:**

Wednesdays

60+ Club Business Meeting 11:00a.m.

Featuring Card games, BINGO, Ballroom Dancing, Hot Meal

Thursdays

Line Dancing Class 11:00a.m.

Tuesdays

Square Dancing 6:30p.m.

Fridays

Square Dancing 10:30a.m.

Mon-Fri

Nutrition Program 10:00a.m

Staff Assistance is provided each month to permit groups such as civic groups, Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club and Mayors Task Force.

## NEIGHBORHOOD UNIVERSITY

### **BASIC GRANT WRITING**

This two-day course provides detailed instruction on the grant writing process and includes the examination of resources and evaluation of grant applications and guidelines. The informal workshop atmosphere allows participants to ask questions and work one-on-one with the instructor to become successful grant writers. ***\*\*Registration begins February 20, 2006.***

| Course              | Site | Day | Time          | Date        |
|---------------------|------|-----|---------------|-------------|
| Basic Grant Writing | GMB  | Tu  | 6:00pm-9:00pm | 4/11 & 18** |

### **ADVANCED GRANT WRITING**

***Prerequisite: Basic Grant Writing.*** This two-part course prepares participants for critiquing and revising grant applications and reviews some common reasons that grant proposals are rejected. An instructor-led roundtable allows for practice proposal writing and individual assistance with the grant writing process. Participants will also have the opportunity to discuss and evaluate a grant proposal they are writing or have written in the past. ***\*Registration begins January 23, 2006. \*\*Registration Begins April 3, 2006.***

| Course                 | Site | Day | Time           | Date       |
|------------------------|------|-----|----------------|------------|
| Advanced Grant Writing | DPH  | Th  | 6:00pm-9:00pm  | 3/16 & 23* |
|                        | DPH  | Sa  | 9:00am-12:00pm | 5/6 & 20** |

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING MASTERY**

Improve your public speaking skills with this one-day course designed to train participants to communicate with credibility. Learn to assess your audience; arrange your speech and thoughts logically; use pacing, tone and gestures to capture and maintain interest; present an image of confidence and competence; and sell yourself and your ideas successfully.

**Registration begins January 23, 2006.**

| Course                  | Site | Day | Time          | Date |
|-------------------------|------|-----|---------------|------|
| Public Speaking Mastery | NC3  | Sa  | 9:00am-4:00pm | 3/4  |

### **MANAGING NEIGHBORHOOD CONFLICT**

Conflict is a natural part of neighborhood life. Often, the real issue is not the conflict itself but what we do with it. This unique learning experience lays a foundation for neighborhood conflict resolution and helps participants identify creative methods of managing conflict whenever and wherever it may arise.

**Registration begins February 20, 2006.**

| Course                         | Site | Day | Time          | Date |
|--------------------------------|------|-----|---------------|------|
| Managing Neighborhood Conflict | VCM  | Sa  | 9:00am-4:00pm | 4/29 |

### **P.L.A.N.N.**

#### **PROTECTING LIVES AND NORFOLK NEIGHBORHOODS**

The P.L.A.N.N. course has been developed to increase the chances of safety and survival for citizens in the event of natural disaster, terrorist attack or nationwide biological, chemical, and nuclear emergencies. The course will also provide guidelines and knowledge that better prepare participants to deal with general safety issues.

P.L.A.N.N. is the only emergency preparedness course of this nature being offered to citizens in the Hampton Roads vicinity that equips each course participant with the information and resources to devise an individual plan of action.

Norfolk Neighborhood University has partnered with such agencies as the American Red Cross, Norfolk Police Department, Norfolk Fire and Paramedical Services, Norfolk Public Schools, and the Norfolk Public Health Department to offer the most accurate information for this program. **Registration begins February 20, 2006.**

| Course     | Site | Day | Time          | Date |
|------------|------|-----|---------------|------|
| P.L.A.N.N. | DPH  | Sa  | 9:00am-4:00pm | 4/8  |

### **CIVIC BOARD DEVELOPMENT**

Give your civic association or neighborhood a boost. Enhance the skills, knowledge and

tools of your board members. Civic Board Development is a two-day customized, comprehensive training course designed to accommodate the unique goals and resources of neighborhood associations such as civic leagues. Topics will include governance, meeting facilitation, group dynamics and communication. **Registration begins April 3, 2006.**

| Course                  | Site | Day | Time          | Date      |
|-------------------------|------|-----|---------------|-----------|
| Civic Board Development | DPH  | W   | 6:00pm-9:00pm | 5/24 & 31 |

## **NORFOLK ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

### **Nuts About Nature!**

#### **For Pre--K ages 2-5 years**

#### **April 4th, 2006, 10-11AM - A TREE IS NICE**

Where does paper come from? How does it get recycled? Learn about trees and discover how much they give!

#### **April 11th, 2006, 10-11AM - A HOUSE IS A HOUSE FOR ME**

Why can't I leave the lights on? Find out why energy conservation at home is so important and how wee ones can help out.

#### **April 18th, 2006 10-11AM - SOMETHING FROM NOTHING**

Reduce, **REUSE**, recycle! Making *Something from Nothing*, kids will learn about their old tennies, how toilet paper can help them stargaze, and keeping clean through reuse.

#### **April 25th, 2006, 10-11AM - GROWING VEGETABLE SOUP**

Three sisters Native American gardening ideas will teach about earth-friendly gardening. Kids take home their own mini planting pots!

#### **May 2nd, 2006, 10-11AM - THE LADY AND THE SPIDER**

Please bug me! Tots will celebrate helpful insects, learn what worms are for, and create some sweet-smelling deterrents.

#### **May 9th, 2006 10-11AM - WATER DANCE**

Through a Native American retelling of the water cycle, little ones will learn about water conservation.

Each session  
includes  
narration,  
demo, activity  
and snack.!

**Fee** (*includes child + 1 adult*)

**\$3 per session      \$15 for package**

### **Place**

*Ernie Morgan Environmental Action Center  
3500-A Granby St., Norfolk, 23504*

### **Registration & Directions**

*Contact **Keep Norfolk Beautiful** at 441-1347*

## **POLICE MUSEUM**

### **Grant Family Treasures Boost Museum Collection; Farewell, Best Wishes to Chief C.D. Grant**

For nearly a century, the Grant family has been dedicated to Norfolk public safety. Charles A. Grant became a Norfolk police officer in 1912 and served close to 35 years. His son, Charles D. Grant, was sworn as an officer in 1946 and worked his way up through the ranks to become chief. He retired after 39 years. Chief Grant's wife, Dorothy, was a NPD crossing guard. The Chief's son, Drew, also served as a Norfolk police officer, and his other son, Don, is presently a Norfolk Fire-Rescue battalion chief. C.A. Grant, C.D. Grant, and Drew Grant all wore the same badge set, #151.

Many museums have what is known as a core collection, a basic collection around which a museum grows. When I became NPD Curator in 2000, there were fewer than 300 NPD and Norfolk historical items in the Museum collection. Chief Grant, Dorothy, Don and Drew generously donated the Norfolk Police Museum. This major gift coupled with the existing Museum holdings formed our families, successfully seeking important additions to our collection. Through his efforts and the efforts of numerous others, our collection has grown to more than 5,000 artifacts, documents, and photographs.

After 85 years, Chief Grant left Norfolk on November 30, 2005 to live with Drew and his family in Colorado and Don and his family in Chesterfield County, Virginia. He will be sorely missed. God bless, and God speed.

There are numerous Grant family items currently on display in the Museum, including the badge set. Located in the Police Administration Building, the Norfolk Police Museum exists for you. If you are not able to visit the museum during the normal hours of

0800-1700, Monday through Friday, just e-mail [jim@melchor.us](mailto:jim@melchor.us) or call 423-6592. Special arrangements will be made to open the museum for NPD family members at night, on weekend, or on holidays.

## **VIRGINIA OPERA**

### **Operatini Night**

March 8, 2006 (5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)  
FREE ADMISSION

Come mix it up with young professionals and singles in Hampton Roads at Virginia Opera's final "Operatini Night" of the season on March 8 at 5:30 p.m., featuring live music, original "Operatini" martinis, beer, wine, and free food and non-alcoholic beverages provided by [Scotty Quixx](#). 21 & up. ID required. Charge for alcoholic beverages only. Cash-only event. Admission is free with suggested \$2 donation (City of Norfolk may charge for parking). RSVP recommended, not required, at [info@vaopera.com](mailto:info@vaopera.com).

### **Virginia Opera presents Bellini's "Norma"**

March 17, 2006 (8 p.m.)  
March 19, 2006 (2:30 p.m.)  
March 22, 2006 (7:30 p.m.)  
March 24, 2006 (8 p.m.)  
March 26, 2006 (2:30 p.m.)

Tickets from \$25-\$90  
757-623-1223 (Southside), 757-877-2550 (Peninsula), [www.vaopera.org](http://www.vaopera.org)

Virginia Opera presents "Norma," the powerful and heart-wrenching tragedy of the Druid priestess torn between love and duty. Sung in Italian with English Supertitles. Performances on March 17 at 8 p.m., March 19 at 2:30 p.m., March 22 at 7:30 p.m., March 24 at 8 p.m., and March 26 at 2:30 p.m. at the Harrison Opera House. Tickets start at \$25, call 757-623-1223 (Southside) or 757-877-2550 (Peninsula), or visit [www.vaopera.org](http://www.vaopera.org) to purchase.

Brief Synopsis: Set in ancient Gaul, Norma tells of the clash between the Druids and the occupying Romans. While the Druids plan a revolt against their oppressors, the priestess Norma wrestles with her own inner demons, as she attempts to win back the love of the Roman pro-consul Pollione, whose children she has secretly borne. She must face the tragic destiny that this conflict between love and public duty sets in motion.

Join Virginia Opera 45 minutes prior to the start of performances (except opening night) for free "Opera Up-Close" presentations that explore the inner-workings of this masterpiece.

**Harrison Opera House--160 East Virginia Beach Blvd.--Norfolk, VA 23510**

## **ZOO**

### **DISCOVER YOUR GREEN THUMB AT YOUR VIRGINIA ZOO**

The Virginia Zoo offers a variety of fun and educational gardening programs. These programs teach the fundamentals to the art of gardening and provide participants with basic gardening skills.

Available programs include:

☐ **Vegetable Gardening for Children:** From seed to harvest, each participant will grow vegetables, flowers and herbs in their own 4' x 4' garden plot. In its 27th year of teaching children how to develop their green thumb, this program begins **Saturday, March 11** and meets on alternating Saturdays from **8:30 – 10:30 a.m.** until July 29. The fee is \$45.00 per participant.

☐ **Vegetable Gardening for Blind Participants and Sighted Children:** This program unites blind participants and children that have their sight. Together they will grow and maintain vegetables, flowers and herbs in raised beds. The program begins **Saturday, March 11** and meets on alternating Saturdays from **10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.** until July 29. The fee is \$45 per participant and there is no charge for blind participants.

For more information or to register, please call (757) 441-2374 ext. 249.

As an accredited American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) facility, your Virginia Zoo exhibits over 350 animals, beautifully manicured grounds and offers a fun-filled day for all. For more than a century, your Virginia Zoo has demonstrated a commitment to wildlife, conservation and education. Your Virginia Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and located at 3500 Granby Street in Norfolk. Daily admission prices are \$7.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors (age 62 and over), and \$5.00 for children ages 2-11. Visit [www.virginiazoo.org](http://www.virginiazoo.org) or call (757) 441-2374 for more information.

**Does Your New Year's Resolution Call For Volunteering?  
The Virginia Zoo Can Help!**

The Virginia Zoo is offering a Docent Training Program for those volunteers interested in educating the public about our mission.

Because of their high visibility, Zoo docents have a special opportunity to share their enthusiasm about animals and the Zoo. The Docent Training Program provides a basic preparation for this work through an educational program followed by an animal handling course and mentorship with experienced docents.

Docent training began in January. For more information about this hands on experience or to reserve your spot in the Virginia Zoo's docent training class, please call Pat Clark at 441-2374 ext. 225 or send her an email to [Patricia.Clark@norfolk.gov](mailto:Patricia.Clark@norfolk.gov).

As an accredited American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) facility, your Virginia Zoo exhibits over 350 animals, beautifully manicured grounds and offers a fun-filled day for all. For more than a century, the Virginia Zoo has demonstrated a commitment to wildlife, conservation and education. Your Virginia Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and located at 3500 Granby Street in Norfolk. Daily admission prices are \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors (age 62 and over), and \$4.00 for children ages 2-11. Visit [www.virginiazoo.org](http://www.virginiazoo.org) or call (757) 441-2374 for more information.



**2006 NEIGHBORHOOD  
LITTER CLEANUP & BEAUTIFICATION  
REGISTRATION FORM FOR GROUPS**

**GROUP INFORMATION**

NAME OF GROUP OR ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CLEANUP LEADER: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

THIS WILL BE A \_\_\_\_\_ CLEANUP \_\_\_\_\_ BEAUTIFICATION

**CLEANUP/BEAUTIFICATION INFORMATION**

LOCATION:

Describe the area(s) your group plans to collect litter and debris. Be as specific as possible. Maps or diagrams attached to this form are encouraged.

DATES: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ START \_\_\_\_\_ FINISH

RAIN DATE?        **Y**        **N**        WHEN? \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF ADULT VOLUNTEERS (18 OR OLDER) EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE:

NUMBER OF YOUTH VOLUNTEERS (12-17) EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE\*:

- *All youth volunteers (under 18) must obtain a parent's or guardian's written permission to participate and must have adequate adult supervision during the cleanup. Separate permission slips are available from the NEC.*

WHAT WILL BE YOUR CLEANUP PUBLICITY FOR VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT?

*(Circle all that apply)*

Announcements at meetings

Word of Mouth

Door-to- Door Flyers

Phone Tree

Posters

Newspaper Ad

Banners /Large signs

Radio or TV

Newsletter

## **SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT REQUESTED**

We request the following supplies for our cleanup (*check all that apply*):

☐ 30-33 GALLON TRASH BAGS

☐ WORK GLOVES

☐ ORANGE SAFETY VESTS

☐ CREW WORKING SIGN(S)

☐ SPECIAL TRASH COLLECTION (*Check all that are requested*)

☐ *Collection at specific locations by the City Division of Waste Management. All collected litter and debris must be placed at the curb near a public street. Please provide a list of locations (street blocks or cross streets) where the trash will be placed. The Group Leader may call in additional locations to the NEC Office after the cleanup.*

☐ *Dumpster - A diagram showing the specific location for the placement of the dumpster must be provided with this form. If on private property, owner's permission is required. Tires, timbers longer than 10 feet and hazardous wastes are not permitted to be placed in or near the dumpster. Your Group must off load dumpsters that are over filled.*

☐ *Household Bulk Waste Neighborhood Sweep (Spring '04 only) – Civic organizations may request a one-time neighborhood-wide pickup of household bulk waste for the Monday following the weekend cleanup.*